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SOMERSETSHIRE  
ARCHÆOLOGICAL  
AND  
NATURAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY'S  
*PROCEEDINGS, 1877.*



VOL. XXIII.

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*Taunton :*  
CHESTON AND CHEASLEY, HIGH STREET.  
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MDCCCLXXXVIII.





*Preface.* 1400920

In the present volume will be found the beginning of a series of Accounts of the Churchwardens of S. Michael's Church in Bath, extending from 1349 to 1575. Some gentlemen of Bath have with liberal kindness had these documents decyphered and transcribed by an expert at their own expense: these are now edited by the Rev. C. B. Pearson, of that city, and he, at my request, has kindly written a short Introduction to them. The Society has therefore only to meet the cost of printing. It is intended to continue the series, and each year to print as much or as little as the amount of our ordinary Proceedings will allow. The Accounts will be sewed at the end of each volume, and the pages numbered by themselves, so that the different parts may be detached and bound up together as a separate book. The state of our finances does not usually allow us to undertake any scheme of publication beyond the production of our annual volumes, yet this way of publishing by instalments will enable us to bring out a really useful and important work, which we could not have attempted to do otherwise.

I am sorry that there are so many errors in the last volume. They are for the most part the result of my leaving to a great extent the correction for the press to others. A list of addenda and corrigenda is sent out with this to be inserted in its proper place in Vol. XXII. I have reason to believe that the present volume will be found to have been more carefully edited.

We have to thank our President, Bishop Clifford, for the map illustrating the campaign of Alfred, and the fraternal kindness of the British Archæological Association for the use of the stones from which Mr. Dymond's illustrations of Stanton Drew are printed.

W. H.

## ERRATA.

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### PART I.

P. 32, line 11, for *scofulous* read *scrofulous*.

P. 40, line last, for *occured* read *occurred*.

### PART II.

P. 29, line 15, for *Farwille* read *Farwelle*.

# *Contents.*

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## PART I.—PROCEEDINGS.

	PAGE
Opening Meeting - - - - -	1
Report of the Council - - - - -	3
The Pigott Drawings, Report on - - - - -	4
Financial Statement - - - - -	6
Place of Meeting - - - - -	8
Inaugural Address by the President - - - - -	9
 Bridgwater—	
The Church of S. Mary - - - - -	28
Admiral Blake's House - - - - -	32
The Castle - - - - -	33
 Afternoon Excursion—	
Chisley Mount - - - - -	35
Chedzoy Church - - - - -	36
 Evening Meeting—	
The Development of the Lower Living Organisms - - - - -	37
The Clubmen - - - - -	39
Bridgwater Castle - - - - -	46
 Excursion—	
North Petherton Church - - - - -	48
Lyng Church - - - - -	49
Athelney - - - - -	50
Boroughbridge - - - - -	51
Othery Church - - - - -	53
Middlezoy Church - - - - -	54
Weston Zoyland Church - - - - -	55



	PAGE
Evening Meeting—	
Barrington Court - - - - -	56
Inroads of the Sea at Steart - - - - -	57
Excursion—	
Street Farm - - - - -	58
Cannington Park Limestone - - - - -	60
Battle of Kenwit - - - - -	62
Stoke Courcy, Stogursey, Church - - - - -	64
„ Castle - - - - -	67
Dodington Manor House - - - - -	68
Danesborough Camp - - - - -	68
The Local Committee - - - - -	69
The Local Museum - - - - -	69
Mr. White's Specimens of Engraving - - - - -	71

---

## PART II.—PAPERS.

On the Influence of Artificially-formed Atmospheres in Modifying the Development of the Lower Forms of Living Organisms, by Dr. Pring - - - - -	1
On an Interment on Cadbury Hill, near Yatton, by the Rev. Preb. Scarth - - - - -	8
The Siege of Bridgwater, July, 1645, by Mr. E. Green -	12
Barrington Court, by Mr. T. Bond - - - - -	26
Stanton Drew, by Mr. C. W. Dymond - - - - -	30
Accounts of the Commonalty of Bridgwater, by the Rev. J. E. Odgers - - - - -	38
The Banwell Charter in Liber Albus, by Mr. F. H. Dickinson - - - - -	49
Notes on the Geology of Otterhampton, by the Rev. T. Woodhouse - - - - -	65
Gaulden, by Mr. E. C. Batten - - - - -	70
Rules, List of Members, &c.	

---

## PART III.

PAGE

The Churchwardens' Accounts of the Church and Parish  
of S. Michael without the North Gate, Bath, edited by  
the Rev. C. B. Pearson—

Addenda and Corrigenda.

Introduction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	i—xxiii
Accounts, No. 1, 1349—No. 19, 1420	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1—28

---

LIST OF PLATES.

Map of the Country about Athelney	-	to face p. 16, Pt. I.
Forms of Pellicles obtained in Hay	-	„ p. 1, Pt. II.
Plan of Remains at Stanton Drew	-	„ p. 30, „
Views of N.E. Circle and Cove, Stanton Drew	- - - - -	„ p. 34, „

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*Proceedings*  
*of the*  
*Somersetshire Archæological and*  
*Natural History Society,*  
*during the year 1877.*

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THE Twenty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at BRIDGWATER, on Tuesday, August 7th, in the Town Hall. Bridgwater has twice before been the scene of meeting. The second Quarterly Meeting was held in this town in 1850. In 1856 the Annual Meeting was fixed for this place. It was, however, found that the British Archæological Association had determined to hold its Congress at the same time and place, and the Committee of the Society therefore yielded the ground to the Association, and only met to transact their ordinary business. In August, 1858, the Society held its tenth Annual Meeting at Bridgwater, under the presidency of The Hon. P. P. Bouverie. The weather during the Meeting was so unfavourable that the intended Excursions were for the most part abandoned. This year the Mayor and Corporation favoured the Committee with an invitation to make their town the place of Meeting, promising a hearty welcome to the Society, a pledge which was amply fulfilled. The arrangements for the Meeting were chiefly carried out by Rev. J. Odgers and Messrs. Barham and Winter-



botham. Mr. J. R. Poole, and many other gentlemen, gave much valuable advice and assistance.

The public proceedings began at 12 noon. The rain, which fell in torrents, somewhat thinned the attendance at the opening Meeting. The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. JEROM MURCH.

The PRESIDENT said that his object in appearing before the Meeting was simply to resign to his successor the office which he had the honour of holding, and he therefore begged to propose as President for the ensuing year, The Hon. and Right Rev. BISHOP CLIFFORD. He considered that it would be unnecessary for him to say anything in support of this proposition. The Bishop was well known in that district, and, indeed, throughout the county, and he was sure that the Society would benefit by his presidency. Unfortunately, the weather was uncongenial; but he hoped that it would brighten, and he was sure that in every other respect the Meeting promised to be most successful.

The proposal was seconded by Mr. C. J. TURNER. Mr. Murch then left the Chair, and Bishop Clifford was voted President with much applause.

The Rev. W. HUNT said he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Murch for his able services as President. The Society could not have had a better man for the work, and those Members who were able to be at the Meeting last year would have a pleasant remembrance of the occasion.

Mr. F. H. DICKINSON was not able to be at Bath last year, but was well aware of the qualifications of Mr. Murch, and as he had performed the duties of the office so well he was entitled to the thanks of the Society. He had much pleasure in seconding Mr. Hunt's proposal.

The motion was agreed to with acclamation, and Mr. MURCH briefly returned thanks.

The PRESIDENT then called upon Mr. C. J. Turner, Honorary Secretary, to read the

### *Report of the Council.*

"The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society have the honour of presenting their Twenty-ninth Annual Report. They have the pleasure to announce that the number of Members has increased from 453 to 489 during the past year. This is a guaranty that the usefulness and objects of the Society are more and more appreciated by the public.

"The amount of unpaid subscriptions is still large, although reminders for payment have been frequently circulated. It is earnestly hoped that those to whom this remark especially applies will remember their obligations, and send in the arrears due to the Society. The Council take the liberty of again suggesting the advantage it would be if Members would give their Bankers a general order to pay the subscription.

"Some important additions have been made to the Museum of the Society. Amongst these the Council think that the interesting collection of Bronze Celts and other objects, discovered in the grounds of the Taunton Union, is especially worthy of notice.

"The Council have taken steps to enlarge the library, and make it more worthy of the Society, by the issue of a circular asking for contributions of books, from those who may have works of intrinsic value or of local interest to part with. A catalogue of the books is in progress, under the able supervision of Mr. Eden, and it is hoped that before the end of the year a guide-book to the whole Museum will be prepared, to be sold to visitors at a very small price.

"'Field Excursions,' by which those who desire it may acquire an accurate and scientific knowledge of the district, have been set on foot at Taunton, and one experiment of the sort amongst the Quantock Hills has been made with success.

"The Council beg leave to call the attention of the Society to the resolution of the Committee expressed in page 4 of the last year's Report, recommending the removal of the ruinous buildings in the courtyard of the Taunton Castle. The Council

would now recommend this Meeting to sanction the removal of such of these outbuildings as are ruinous and unsafe. They recommend, also, that the building called the "Stable" may be so far repaired as to fit it for purposes of a store-house.

"The Council cannot close this Report without referring with great sorrow to the death of the Rev. Thos. Hugo, by which the Society has lost one of its oldest and most valued Members, who often enriched their volumes with papers of great research and local interest.

"The Council wish to record their thanks for the cordial invitation to visit this ancient town by the Mayor and Corporation of Bridgwater.

"A report on the Pigott Collection of Drawings is appended.

"Since the writing of this Report, the Council and the Society generally have to deplore another sad loss in the death of Mr. H. Danby Seymour, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, who ably and genially presided over the successful meeting at Sherborne. The loss of Mr. Danby Seymour will leave a blank not only in the Society, but in many spheres of literary and practical usefulness, which were advanced by his ability and accomplishments."

### *The Pigott Collection of Drawings.*

"It will be in the recollection of the Society that a very valuable collection of Drawings, bearing the above designation, was many years ago placed in their custody, under directions from the Court of Quarter Sessions. The collection had been made at great expense by the late John Hugh Smyth-Pigott, Esq., and that gentleman in his last moments gave verbal directions to his friend and physician, Dr. J. H. Pring, to place the same at the disposal of the County Authorities, adding some expressions of his wishes on the subject.

"The collection comprises about 1,150 drawings of Churches and other architectural antiquities in Somerset, by Messrs. Buckler, and drawings also of the Monastic Seals of the Western Counties, from the collection of the late Mr. Cayley.

“The Lord Lieutenant and the Court of Quarter Sessions determined, in 1858, that this important Collection should be deposited in the custody of your Society. A question having been lately addressed to your Curator as to such custody, the Committee recommend that they should be authorised to draw up an account of the circumstances under which the Society holds the Drawings, and that such account, together with a list of the Trustees appointed at the above date by the Lord Lieutenant and the County, should be printed, and a copy pasted into each volume of the Collection for ready reference.

“The following are the Trustees of the Pigott Collection of Drawings, appointed by the Lord Lieutenant and the County in 1858:—

The Lord Lieutenant of the County.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

The Members of Parliament for the County.

The Chairman of Quarter Sessions.

The Clerk of the Peace for the County.

James Hurly Pring, Esq., M.D.

Edward Frederic Smyth-Pigott, Esq.

The Rev. George Octavius Smyth-Pigott

} For life.

“The Committee further recommend that the above list of the Trustees should appear annually in the Proceedings of the Society.”

The Report having been adopted,

Mr. F. H. DICKINSON said that attention had been called in the Report to the resolution of the Committee, recommending the removal of some ruinous and unsightly erections in the courtyard of the Castle, and it seemed to him that it would be advisable that the Society should pass a definite resolution on the matter. He did not think that there could be any possible objection to this removal. No antiquarian interest attached to these erections, and he begged to move that the sanction of the Society should be given for their removal.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.





Mr. TURNER added that Mr. Malet, who was not able to be present, had that morning received from Lord Clifford ten guineas towards the Purchase Fund, and that £5 had also been received from Mr. H. Danby Seymour, whose death they so deeply regretted; the money having, he believed, been remitted only the day before that gentleman died.

The Treasurers' Report was accepted.

Mr. WELMAN then proposed the re-election of the Vice-Presidents, with two important modifications: the Society had lost one of the most popular and not least able of their Vice-Presidents, by the death of Mr. H. D. Seymour. He begged to propose as an addition to the list the name of Mr. Jerom Murch.

Mr. A. L. WINTERBOTHAM seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. TURNER proposed the re-appointment of Mr. H. Badcock and Mr. H. J. Badcock as Treasurers for the ensuing year, and spoke of the kindness which these gentlemen had long shown in giving their services to the Society.

The Rev. J. ODGERS seconded the proposal, remarking on the great importance to a Society of this kind of having business men to manage finance matters.

Mr. MURCH proposed the re-appointment of the Rev. W. Hunt, and Messrs. O. W. Malet and C. J. Turner, as Hon. General Secretaries for the ensuing year, saying that the Society was much indebted to them for the services they had rendered.

Mr. SURTEES said that he was very glad that it had fallen to his lot to second the proposal. They were most fortunate in having such a triumvirate to manage the affairs of the Society. Mr. Hunt for the most part took the charge of the purely literary work; Mr. O. Malet had exhibited extraordinary skill and perseverance in collecting funds, by which a very great part of the Castle Purchase debt had been cleared off. Mr. Turner managed the local affairs at Taunton with zeal, taste, and ability. With respect to the recent purchase of the property, he would

say that the addition was not only valuable in warding off the possible nuisance of a pig-market, but as securing an integral portion of the Castle grounds.

The motion was agreed to.

The Local Secretaries were re-elected, with the addition of Rev. J. E. Odgers and Messrs. A. G. Barham and W. L. Winterbotham.

The Members of the General Committee were also re-elected.

The Rev. W. HUNT, in proposing the re-election of Mr. W. Bidgood as Assistant Secretary and Curator, remarked that his two colleagues and he himself could bear testimony that they could not have a more efficient or a better helper. For many years Mr. Bidgood had given up a large amount of time to the work of the Society, and the services which he rendered were poorly compensated by the small salary which the Society was able to give him. It would be difficult to find another man so suited for the post, or one who could and would give so much substantial help to all schemes for advancing the efficiency of the work of the Society.

Mr. TURNER seconded the proposal, saying that the Committee were very glad to be able to retain Mr. Bidgood's valuable services.

Mr. HUNT said that it was usual at the opening Meeting to say something about the place of Meeting for the next year, and then after having ventilated the subject, to refer it to the decision of the Council. Two or three places had been suggested to him. Mr. Sanford had more than once spoken of Dulverton. It was no doubt a place of great natural beauty, and one where the Natural History side of the Society would find rich materials. He should be strongly in favour of it, if only the commissariat was likely to be satisfactory. Mr. Freeman had proposed Glastonbury, and if the Society met there they would have the advantage of having the admirable monograph on King Ine finished.

Dr. FARMER observed that he did not think that sufficient

accommodation or means of conveyance could be had at Dulverton. He thought that the Society was too apt to run in grooves as regards the place of meeting ; why should they re-visit Glastonbury, when the hills and country round Minehead were so little known : he thought the Society should visit that part of the county. Portishead was another place where they would find much to interest them.

Mr. HUNT replied that the Society had already met at Dunster, and at Williton ; that he remembered the Williton Meeting as the most sterile he had ever been present at. No one read a paper, and scarcely any one made any remark worth listening to, so he was for keeping clear of the neighbourhood for a while. He thought that the neighbourhood of Portishead was fairly worked at the Clevedon Meeting : at the same time more might be done there, and he would keep the suggestion in mind.

Mr. F. H. DICKINSON said that he did not think that any decision could be made then, and moved that the Council be empowered to fix the place of the next General Meeting.

Mr. MURCH seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

Ten new Members were elected.

The PRESIDENT then delivered his

## Inaugural Address.

MY first duty to day is to thank you for the honour you have been pleased to confer upon me by electing me as President of your Society : an honour which I highly value, both on account of the kind feeling which it evinces on your part towards me, and because of the opportunity it affords me of profiting still more by the observations and labours of the many learned archæologists, naturalists, and geologists, who have devoted no small portion of their time and talents to subjects connected with this county.

I have in the second place a very pleasing duty to perform in thanking the Mayor of Bridgwater for his kind invitation, and for the generous hospitality he has offered to the Society on the

occasion of this our Annual Meeting. I can assure him that his kindness is fully appreciated by every Member of the Society; and I trust that our visit, which cannot be other than most gratifying to ourselves, will also prove interesting to the town over which he presides.

It is my duty, in the third place, to address you on some subject connected with the county of Somerset—and more especially with the town and neighbourhood where we are now assembled. An objection is sometimes raised against local societies, like ours, that their scope is too limited: that the objects of archæological, or geological, or historical interest which can be found in a single county are necessarily few, and that consequently, however warmly the work may be entered upon at first, such societies are ultimately doomed to failure, and must die out from want of fresh objects of interest. But there is a fallacy in this argument. All branches of science undoubtedly require wide views—but wide views can only be of value when they are based on the exact knowledge of individual facts; and it is above all the special province of local labourers and local societies accurately to ascertain those facts. As regards our county of Somerset, many long years must elapse before all the local facts of history, of geology, and of the natural history connected with it shall have been worked out. Much remains to be ascertained regarding the state of this portion of Britain in Roman and British times. And as regards a later period, Somerset possesses, as yet, no such work as Wiltshire does in the admirable publication of Rev. Mr. Jones's *Domesday for Wiltshire*. Whenever such a work appears, it will be seen what a large number, not only of villages, but of farms in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater, have preserved their names unchanged from times anterior to the Norman Conquest.

The name itself, of Bridgwater, is a subject of some interest. In Latin documents of the 16th or 17th century I find it mentioned as *Aquae-Pons*, which is a literal translation of Bridgwater; but even then I have found the suggestion advanced that



the original name of the town may in reality have been Bridge-Walter, or even Byrge-Walter—the bridge or the town of Walter. The late Mr. Hugo, of our Society, in his admirable work entitled "*Mediæval Nunneries of the County of Somerset*," has produced two documents, one dated A.D. 1331, and the other 1468, in which the town is distinctly called Brugge-walter and Bryg-Walter.<sup>1</sup> I think there can be no doubt that this is the real origin of the name. We find in Domesday that Walter de Douay was the owner of many possessions in this neighbourhood. He held Wembdon, and Bawdrip, and Horsey, and Paulet, and Burnham, and Huntspill, and Brean, and with these he held *Brugie*, or Bridge, with 30 acres of pasture land, and 100 acres of brushwood, "*silvae minutae*," such as then abounded in the marsh lands of Somerset. There can be no doubt that "*Brugie*" is Bridgwater, called up to that period simply Brydge, but afterwards receiving from its owner, Walter de Douay, the additional name of Bridge-Walter (just as we have Sampford-Arundel, Norton-Fitzwarren, Staple-Fitzpaine, and many others), to distinguish it, probably, from another bridge further up the Parret, called Borough Bridge, to which I shall refer later.

In a paper which I had the honour some years ago of reading before this Society, I have shown my reasons for believing that Bridgwater was not improbably the town or fort wherein the Danes took refuge after the defeat they sustained from Alfred (A.D. 878) at Ethandune—which I believe to be Edington on Polden Hill, and not Eddington in Wilts. On the present occasion I propose to say something concerning another spot in this neighbourhood, the name of which is closely connected with the interesting events of that same period. I refer to the Isle of Athelney, which, according to the Programme, we shall visit to-morrow. Athelney is known 1st, as the hiding-place of King Alfred; 2nd, as the fort whence he assailed the Danes; 3rd, as the spot where he erected a monastery in gratitude to God for

(1). Cannington, p. 127. Ibid, 134.

his victory. My observations will bear reference to Athelney under each of these different aspects.

The name, Athelney, implies "Noble Island ;" and is said to have been applied to the island in consequence of Alfred having for a considerable length of time concealed himself there from the Danes. But in Asser, the Chronicle, Domesday, and all the more ancient authorities, the island is uniformly styled *Æthelingaæg* (*eg* or *igg*), which signifies Island of the *Ethelings*, in the plural number: that is to say, either Isle of *the Nobles*, or of the *Royal Children*—for these, and not the King himself, bore the name of Ethelings. From them, therefore, rather than from Alfred, the name of the island would seem to have originated. In fact, not only is there no reason to believe that Alfred for any considerable length of time lay concealed at Athelney, but such a notion (widely as it is spread) is in contradiction to undoubted historical facts.

The Danes captured Chippenham, and then rode over and subdued the country on the 6th January, 878. Alfred raised a work at Athelney, whence he assailed the Danes at Easter of that same year, which fell on the 23rd of March. A period of exactly eleven weeks intervenes between these two dates, and this, therefore, is the utmost length of time during which Alfred *could* possibly have remained concealed, even if we suppose him to have remained inactive during the whole of the period which elapsed previously to his raising a fort at Æthelney. But is it true that Alfred hid himself, and forsook his post in the hour of his country's greatest need? Far from it! Though the people were panic-stricken by the sudden inroad of the Danes, Alfred never lost courage or despaired of his country. "The Danes," says the writer of the Chronicle, "rode over the country and subdued it to their will, *all but Alfred the King*. He," continues the chronicler, "with a small band, uneasily sought the fastnesses of the moors." "He led a wandering life," writes Asser, "amongst the marshes and forests of Somerset, in great hardships, for he had nothing to support himself and

his followers, except what he captured during his inroads on the Danes."

Three things are clear from these passages. 1st. If during those eleven weeks Alfred led a wandering life, he cannot for any considerable period of time have lain concealed, either at Athelney or anywhere else. 2nd. If he had with him all along a small band of faithful followers, it cannot be true that he had forsaken his people. 3rd. As he constantly assailed the Danes, they must have known in what part of the country he was, though they were ignorant of the exact spot.

Alfred, therefore, did not for any considerable space of time lie concealed, either at Athelney or elsewhere.

But besides providing for his own safety, and for that of his followers, he had another anxious duty to perform in providing for the safety of his wife and children (of whom he had at that time at least four, all young). They were unable to follow him in his wanderings; and he feared for them, not only the cruelty of the Danes, but the treachery of spies and false men. For them, therefore, he provided a refuge and hiding place in the cottage of one of his herdsmen in the Isle of Athelney. He was never far from them in his wanderings, and he visited them at intervals during those eleven weeks, but *always alone*, for he revealed the secret of their hiding place to no man. And so it is true what the old writer of the life of St. Neot says, that there were times during those weeks when even his most trusted followers knew not whither he had gone. In this sense only is it true that Athelney was used as a place of concealment by Alfred; and it seems most probable that from the circumstance of the island having given shelter to the royal children, it received the name of *Ætheling-aeg*, or Island of the *Æthelings*.

I must not, however, omit to notice that the circumstance recorded by Asser and Ethelward, of Alfred having permitted none but nobles to accompany him when he proceeded to fortify Athelney, and made it the centre of his daily attacks on the

Danes, is not improbably another reason why it received that name.

Let us now see what Alfred did at Athelney, as soon as the return of spring allowed him to try his fortune in the field. "This same year (878)," writes Asser, "after Easter, King Alfred, with a few assistants, built a fort in the place called *Ætheling-aeg*, and from that same fort he, with the nobles of the vale of Somerset, unceasingly, and indefatigably, waged war against the Pagans." "At Easter of this year," the Chronicle says, "King Aelfred, with his little force, raised a fort at *Ætheling-aig*, and from that fort he, together with the men of Somerset that were nearest thereto, waged war against the army."

Now the first conclusion to be drawn from the passage just quoted is this : that the Danes were in force somewhere in the neighbourhood of Athelney, otherwise Alfred could not have constantly assailed them from his fort. We further gather from the Chronicle, that this Danish force was no other than that which the said Chronicle throughout this narrative uniformly describes as *the Army*, viz., the forces led by Gothrum, which captured Chippenham in January, and then rode over the country and subdued it ; and the same which was ultimately vanquished by Alfred at Ethandune. Gothrum, therefore, with his army, had, by Easter, left Chippenham, and had marched towards the Bristol Channel, or the Severn Sea, and had occupied a position not far from Athelney. It must have been on this occasion that the Danes (as William of Malmesbury relates) burned Glastonbury. Gothrum's object in this move was, apparently, that he might act in concert with another Danish force which had come over from Wales, under the leadership of Ubba, so as to crush Alfred (who was known to be somewhere in the marshes) between their two armies. This auxiliary force had received a severe check, and had lost its leader and many men on landing, near a place called Kinwit, which I identify as Cannington Park. The remainder joined Gothrum, who, with these united forces, was now preparing to avenge the death of Ubba, and complete the



conquest of Wessex. This was the enemy against which Alfred had to contend. They were encamped not far from Athelney, and not far from the coast, and therefore not far from the spot where we are now assembled.

Alfred began operations against this army by raising a work at Athelney. What was his object in choosing this spot? and what was the nature of the work he raised there? The whole aspect of the country has greatly changed since the days of Alfred, but with the assistance of a map which I have prepared for the purpose, and aided by the descriptions of the place which have been handed down to us by ancient writers, I trust to make clear to you the nature and object of Alfred's work. Many of you have probably seen during the past winter the desolate aspect which the country between Bridgwater, Taunton, and Langport presented during the floods, which reduced many thousands of acres of lands to a vast lake. Those floods were caused, 1st, by the insufficiency of the outlet for the great quantity of water brought down by the rivers, swollen by the winter rains; and, 2nd, by the bursting or breaking down of several artificial embankments, which had been raised in modern times to facilitate the drainage of the land, and protect from inundation large tracts of country, the level of which is below that of the sea. Now if you reflect that a thousand years ago none of these embankments had been raised, and that, moreover, the great Sedgmoor drain, which empties itself at Dunball, had then no existence; that the River Carey emptied itself into the Parret above Borough Bridge, and that therefore the bed of the River Parret was the only outlet for all the rivers, and marshes, and floods of the valley, you will see that the inundations which we witnessed last winter must fairly represent what was the ordinary condition of the country each winter in the days of Alfred. In summer the aspect was different from anything we see in our times. The low land near Bridgwater, and towards the sea—which even now bears the name of the *levels*—is sufficiently elevated to be free from floods, even in winter; but as



we proceed inland the land becomes more depressed, so that even after the winter floods had passed away large tracts of country remained occupied by a lake, which rose and fell with the tide (Sedge-mere, a sea-lake), and partly by peat beds and marshes, and swampy land, covered with brushwood and alders, which gave shelter to vast herds of deer and game of various kinds. In the midst of these lakes and marshes rises a long tract of elevated land. This was known as Zoyland, the island; or Middlezoy, the centre island. At its western extremity is the village called, from its position, Weston Zoyland, or Weston on the Island; just as we have Weston-super-Mare, Weston in Gordano, and many other Westons throughout the county. This tract of land was during the winter truly an island, surrounded on all sides by water: but in summer, as the floods subsided, the water retreated from its western extremity, leaving it connected by a wide tract of low pasture land with the Flats near Bridgwater. The eastern extremity still remained surrounded by lake and marshes. There was another smaller island in the valley, called Chedzoy, which in like manner seems to have been an island only during the winter. And besides these two there was a third, viz., the island Ætheling-aegg, or Athelney, the position and extent of which I must now describe.

William of Malmesbury, who saw the island in the 12th century, scarcely 300 years after the days of Alfred, thus writes concerning it (*De Gestis Pont. Angl.*):—"Aedeling-a-g is an island, surrounded, not by the sea, but by fens and overflowing marshes, so as to be altogether inaccessible, except by means of boats. On this island is a forest of alders of vast extent, giving shelter to stags and roebucks, and many other kinds of game. Of dry land there are barely two acres. There is a small monastery, with offices for the monks."

We have, moreover, the description of the place given by Asser, who visited it in the lifetime of King Alfred:—"Alfred," he says, "built a monastery for monks in the place called Aetheling-aeg, which is surrounded on all sides by water and by



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vast and impassable peat bogs. Access can be had to it only by causeways, or by a single bridge, built and lengthened out with great labour between two elevated forts. Towards the western extremity of this bridge a fort of very great strength and most beautiful construction has been raised by the King."

You will find it difficult to trace any resemblance whatever between the Ætheling-egg, described by these eye-witnesses, and the Isle of Athelney of our days. Not only have monastery, monks' offices, and church, vanished, and with them the two forts, the far-stretching bridge, and the forests of alders, but the island itself seems to have all but faded away. The small hill which rises out of the plain close to the village of East Ling (a corruption, no doubt, of Ætheling), and which bears the name of the Isle of Athelney, would only give room for the church and convent, and the few acres of pasture land. There are peat-beds at the far side of the Parret, about a mile distant, and we may recognise in the meadows which surround the hill on all sides the site of the ancient marshes. But where are we to look for the wide forest of alders which grew on the island, and gave shelter to deer and game? It is the solution of this difficulty that enables us not only to understand the passages I have quoted from William of Malmesbury and Asser, but also to appreciate the choice made by Alfred of this spot as the basis of his operations against the Danes.

At the distance of about a mile from East Ling, on the far side of the River Parret, rises a remarkable conical hill, such as the Britons would call a *Tor*, the Saxons a *Stan*. From it the adjoining moor derives its appellation of *Stanmoor*. This Stan, or rock, as also the hillock now called Isle of Athelney, are only projecting points of a sunken ridge of rock, which stretches across the marsh from near East Ling to the neighbourhood of Othery, on the middle island, or Zoyland. It is this ridge of rock that determines the course of the River Tone, and causes it to flow into the Parret at right angles, not far from the spot where the Stan rises on the opposite bank. Formerly it influenced in

a similar manner the course of the River Carey, causing it to flow into the Parret a little above Stanmore Bridge. But the course of the Carey has since then been artificially diverted from the Parret, and made to empty itself into the new Sedgmoor cut. The flat country between East Ling and Othery was formerly a marsh, which has been silted by mud deposited by the overflow of the Parret. The process of filling up is a gradual one, and some portions of the marsh were reduced to a more or less solid condition sooner than others; till by degrees the whole country became reduced to its present uniform level. Now you will observe that as the tidal stream flowed up the Parret, the rapidity of its course on reaching the Stan was suddenly checked, by the River Tone meeting it at right angles. It was forced, in consequence to deposit a portion of the mud which it held in solution, and inasmuch as the *Stan* prevented the river overflowing the marsh on the right side, the deposit of mud must have taken place on the left, and thus a constantly increasing delta was formed at the junction of the two rivers, which became a large tract of marshy land, extending to the hillock now known as Athelney in one direction, and for a considerable distance down the left bank of the Parret in the other direction, the rest of the marsh still being occupied by water. It was this delta which, being overgrown with alders, became the resort of deer, and formed the wide swampy forest of the Isle of Athelney, as described by William of Malmesbury; the only dry land was on the hillock, which at this day bears the name of the Isle of Athelney. And this afforded room enough for a small church and monastery, and a couple of acres of pasture. The Stan did not form part of the island, but stood immediately outside it, being only separated from it by the River Parret; and the sunken ridge of rocks between the Stan and Othery (along which the turnpike road now runs) formed one of those natural causeways by which the marshes could be crossed at certain times of the year and states of the tide, by men who were well acquainted with the country.

It now remains for us to see what was the nature of Alfred's work, and what was his object in selecting this position. He raised a work at Æthelingæ, says the Chronicle. This work is the same which Asser speaks of as a fort of great strength and beautiful construction, standing on an eminence at the west end of the far-stretching bridge. It stood on the *Stan* outside, but close to the entrance of the island, and it served not only to guard the bridge and the entrance to the island, but also as a watch tower, from which to observe the movements of the Danes, and so choose the best time for attacking them, and gain timely notice of any contemplated attack on the island. The bridge mentioned by Asser crossed the Parret from the low portion of the island to the foot of the *Stan*, about the spot where Borough Bridge now stands (so called from the Borough Bury, or castle, which rose above it on the *Stan*); and its prolongation (the *operosa prolungatio* of Asser) stretched far away across the marsh, along the causeway or ridge of rocks, to the Zoyland, or high ground near Othery, where another smaller fort was erected to guard its eastern approach. Asser does not say of this bridge (as he does of the principal fort), that it was the work of Alfred. Later writers have attributed it to him, but it seems more probable that at first he only threw a bridge of timber across the Parret at the foot of the *Stan*, where his fort stood, and made use of the causeway (which he may have improved in places) for the purpose of traversing the marsh to the Zoyland. The continuation of the bridge along the causeway, which Asser describes as *operosa prolungatio*, was probably added at a somewhat later period, when the monastery was founded by Alfred.

The object and the advantages of the position chosen by Alfred now become clear. The Danes were in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater, and in the surrounding country grazed the flocks and herds which formed their support, and were the result of their pillage. Their numbers were vastly superior to the small band of men of Somerset which Alfred had gathered around him. But numbers were of no avail against such a

position as Alfred had formed for himself at Athelney. The only approach was by the bridge, and this a few resolute men could hold against any number of assailants, who could only gain access to it along the narrow and dangerous causeway, and who would then find themselves at the foot of an impregnable fort. On the other hand, Alfred had in the fort shelter for his men, and in the island he had room to stow the cattle and corn which he captured from the enemy, for the support of himself and his followers, in the daily raids he made against the Danes. From the top of the Stan he could watch his opportunity, and then steal out by his bridge and causeway to Zoyland, whence he could suddenly fall upon any part of the country occupied by Danes, either to assail the army or make prey of their cattle; for in April and May there was ready access from the western end of Zoyland to the flat country round Bridgwater. Thus, with a small band of brave followers—men of Somerset, well acquainted with the fords of the marshes,—he was able constantly to harass a large army of Danes, and provide for the maintenance of his men, and impress the enemy with the idea that his forces were much more numerous than they actually were, and so occupy the attention of Gothrum, and prevent his moving elsewhere, till Alfred's own forces, which were being assembled out of sight of the enemy, on the east side of Selwood Forest, were ready for action. They were ready by the end of seven weeks—the middle of May. Then Alfred secretly left Athelney by night, and rode to meet them at Egbertestain—that is, at Whit Sheet Castle, on the borders of Wilts. Placing himself at their head, he led them by a forced march by the old road through Selwood Forest, to Eglea, at the foot of Glastonbury Tor. And next day, early, he marched along the old road through Street, and along the ridge of Polden Hill, till he reached a point over Edington—the Ethandune of Asser and the Chronicle. By thus gaining command of the heights above the Danes, and shutting them up between the marshes and the sea, he was able to crush them, and gain a complete victory.



Of Alfred's work at Athelney it is now difficult to trace any remains. The present Borough Bridge is of modern construction. The marsh being now drained, a turnpike road occupies the site of the causeway, and has superseded the laborious prolongation of the bridge spoken of by Asser. The site of the smaller fort near Othery has been removed by quarrying. Only on the Stan near Borough Bridge we may perhaps trace the remains of the terraces of Alfred's fort or Borough, whence the bridge took its name of Borough Bridge. The monastery and church which Alfred built at Athelney stood on the raised portion of the island, which still bears the name of Isle of Athelney. Almost every vestige of it has been destroyed, and there would be very little for me to say to you concerning the foundation of Alfred, were it not for a most interesting relic of this King, the connexion of which with the monastery at Athelney I believe I have been able to trace.

Most persons who have taken an interest in the life of Alfred are acquainted with a beautiful specimen of 9th century gold work, preserved in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, commonly known as Alfred's gem, or Alfred's jewel. It was dug up in the year 1693, at Newton Park, about half-way between Athelney and Bridgwater. It has been repeatedly engraved, and a photograph of it was published with the edition of the works of King Alfred, by the Alfred Committee, on the occasion of King Alfred's Jubilee, 1852. The gem, which is almost oval in shape, but somewhat pointed at one end, is rather more than two inches in length, and half an inch thick. It consists of a cut and polished crystal, set in a case of pure gold, of exquisite workmanship. The back of the crystal is flat, as is likewise the thin gold plate on which the crystal rests, and which forms a portion of the setting. The upper side of this gold plate is inlaid with enamel, worked in red, green, and yellow. This enamel is visible through the crystal which covers it, and represents the outline of a royal personage seated on a throne, and holding in both hands a sort of fleur-de-lis. It is probably intended as a representation



of King Alfred himself. On the under side of the gold plate a flowery ornament is engraved. The front, or upper side of the crystal is smaller than the back, consequently the setting slopes inward all around, and forms a ledge, on which is worked in pierced letters of gold the following inscription, "Ælfred mec heht gewyrcean"—Alfred had me worked. It is to be remarked that the letters are arranged with their heads towards the centre of the gem, so that in order to read the inscription the eye of the spectator must be directed, not from the centre, as in coins, but from the outside, as is the case with inscriptions encircling recumbent tomb stones. This circumstance (which I have not noticed before) shows that the gem was not intended to stand in an upright position, for then the inscription would appear reversed, and would run from right to left. The narrow end of the gem, where the first and last letter of the inscription meet, is formed into the head of a griffin, the mouth of which is a round socket, less than one-fourth of an inch in diameter, traversed by a strong gold rivet, which still remains *in situ*, though the object it was intended to secure is no longer there. The gem itself is perfectly intact, and is no less remarkable for elegance of design and skill of execution, than for the costliness of its materials. What adds greatly to its value and interest is, first, the inscription, stating that it was made by order of Alfred (for Asser relates that the King himself loved to take part in directing the work of his goldsmiths); and secondly, the circumstance of its having been found so near Athelney, a spot in so many ways connected with Alfred. Yet, when we come to inquire into the object and use of this costly jewel we seem doomed to disappointment. The opinion, at first most commonly adopted, that it is a pendant, and as such was worn by the King, and lost by him during some of his raids from Athelney, is evidently not correct; for if this had been the use of the jewel, the seated figure of the King would have been worn with his head inverted and feet uppermost. Moreover, if the jewel were a pendant, the mouth of the griffin would have been pierced to hold a ring, and would

not have been shaped as a socket. Others, therefore, have suggested that it may have formed the head of a sceptre, somewhat similar to the fleur-de-lis depicted on the jewel itself. But, as I have remarked above, if the figure is held upright the inscription round it appears inverted ; moreover, the hole of the socket being less than one-fourth of an inch in diameter, the object inserted cannot have been larger than an ordinary cedar pencil, which is far too small a size for a sceptre.

I shall not detain you with reciting all the other purposes for which it has been conjectured that this jewel may have been fashioned. Its real use will, I think, be made clear to you by the following observations. I have told you that the socket in the head of the griffin is traversed by a strong gold rivet. The gem is intact, and the rivet is still in its place, but the object has disappeared from the socket. It follows that this object was made of some perishable material—such as wood, or bone, or horn, and has rotted away. Had it been made of metal or stone it could not have been extracted *whole* without first removing the rivet ; and if we suppose it to have been broken off by a blow or wrench, the delicate gold-work would show evidence of the violence done. Moreover, the portion of the object at the back of the rivet would still remain there, as it could not be extracted without removing the rivet, though the portion in front had fallen off. Now, is there any article likely to have been used in the days of King Alfred, a portion of which would be made of such precious materials as this gem exhibits, whilst the other portion was made of wood, or bone, or horn ?

Amongst the articles of church furniture used in the middle ages, frequent mention is made of "*Baculi Cantorum*," or choir staves. In the year 1222 there were eight such staves in the treasury of Salisbury Cathedral. "The staves at Canterbury Cathedral" (writes Dr. Rock, *Church of our Fathers*, vol. 2,) "were as rich as they were curious, in the year 1315." He gives a list of them, and among them are *iv. baculi de cornu, cum capitibus eburneis*—four staves of horn with ivory handles ;

others were adorned with gold and silver and precious stones. The use of these staves was to enable the *Cantor* or master of the choir to point out to the singers and to the readers their places in the book, and so prevent the manuscripts and their illuminations being soiled by the touch of fingers. When the lessons were read, the choir master not only pointed out the spot where the lesson commenced, but handed, if necessary, the staff to the lector, that he might use it to guide his eye along the lines in reading. This precaution was not only observed with regard to those beautifully illuminated volumes used for the church services, but was equally, if not more so, required in the case of books which were intended for the use of the general public. Most readers required to use their fingers to assist their eyes in following the lines, a practice which, if allowed, would not only soil the manuscripts, but in course of time obliterate them. Therefore, when books were intended for public use it was customary to place by them a small staff or pointer for the use of the reader, even as in modern days a paper knife forms one of the ordinary articles of furniture on a library table. In many instances these little staves or pointers were inserted in the binding of the books themselves, something after the fashion in which pencils are inserted in modern pocket books.

I may seem to be widely departing from Alfred and from Athelney, but you will soon perceive the pertinency of these remarks. Alfred, as you know, did much to encourage learning amongst his subjects, and he was especially anxious that useful works should be translated into English, and copies of them be arranged in public places, where all might gain access to them and read them. To encourage this good and noble work by his example, he became himself an author. And he thus describes, in the preface which he wrote to the book he translated, the steps he took to start what I may call the first public reading in England :—"When I reflected," he says, "how the knowledge of the Latin tongue had fallen away throughout England, though many still knew how to read English writing,

I began in the midst of divers and manifold affairs of this kingdom to turn into English this book (of S. Gregory the Great), which in Latin is named *Pastoralis*, and in English *The Herdsman's Book*; sometimes word for word and sometimes sense for sense, even as I had been taught by Plegmund my Archbishop, and Asser my Bishop, and Grimbald my Mass-priest, and John my Mass-priest. After I had learned of them how I might best understand it, I turned it into English. And I will send a copy to every bishop's see in my kingdom, and in each book there is an aestel" (*i.e.*, a staff) "of" (the value of) "50 mancusses; and I command, in God's name, that no man take the staff from the book, nor the book from the minster, seeing that we know not how long there shall be such learned bishops, as now, thank God, there be. Therefore I command that these remain always in their places, unless the bishop have them with him either to lend somewhere, or to have other copies made from them."

Here, then, we have the explanation of Alfred's gem. It is the handle of a book-staff or pointer, which, like those at Canterbury, and elsewhere, was made of horn (which has perished), the handle itself being of precious and durable materials. The inscription on it bears witness that it was made by Alfred's order, "Alfred had me worked;" and this circumstance, taken in conjunction with the costliness of its material and the beauty of its execution, make it in the highest degree probable that it is one of those aestels which Alfred says were worked by his order, and inserted in the presentation copies of his translation of *The Herdsman's Book*, and which were valued at 50 mancusses, or (taking the value of the mancuss at 7s. 6d.) £18 15s., a large sum for those days.

But if so, how came this gem to be found in this neighbourhood? Alfred presented one to each Bishop's see in his kingdom, and there was no Bishop's see in those days in these parts nearer than Sherborne in Dorsetshire. You will have remarked that Alfred in his preface mentions four persons who assisted him in



translating the book. Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury; Asser, Bishop of Sherborne; the priest, Grimbald, who presided over the school which Alfred had founded for the training of the English youth; and the Priest John, who was placed by Alfred as Abbot over the monastery which he founded at Athelney. Copies of the book, each having a book-staff, were sent to Plegmund and Asser, for they both were Bishops. Can there be any reasonable doubt that this mark of attention was equally observed in the case of the other two collaborators? More especially as Grimbald was at the head of Alfred's school, and it was in order to promote English reading that Alfred had undertaken the translation of the book, and John, though not a Bishop, was Abbot over the monastery which Alfred himself had built in gratitude to God for the victory he had gained. A copy of the book, with the costly aestel in it, was no doubt sent by Alfred to his friend John, at Athelney, as well as to the other three collaborators. The book and the staff were, agreeably to Alfred's order, preserved in the Minster, till, in the days of trouble, (probably at the dissolution of the monastery,) both were hidden out of sight, and for that purpose buried in the grounds of some neighbouring friend at Newton Park in the hopes of recovering them in better days. As time passed on, the secret of the place where they were hidden died with the man who had hidden them, and when after many years chance revealed the place of the deposit, the book itself and the perishable portion of the staff had rotted away, leaving only the gold and crystal handle, with the words "*Ælfred had me worked,*" to tell the tale. This I believe to be the true history of Alfred's gem. When I visited the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, in the month of July, I was shown by the courteous Curator, by the side of Alfred's jewel, a smaller specimen of ancient goldsmith's work which was dug up a few years ago at Minster Lovel in Oxfordshire, on the site of an ancient abbey. It is smaller than Alfred's gem, but, like the latter, it is evidently the handle of a reading-staff. The handle of Alfred's staff was



made of a size that might be conveniently grasped in the hand ; the one from Minster Lovel was intended to be held between the finger and thumb. It is smaller and less costly, but the workmanship of the gold is so like the larger one of Alfred as almost to suggest its being the work of the same man.

The Bishop's address was illustrated by a map, which had been specially prepared.

Mr. DICKINSON, in thanking the President for his valuable address, said he could not help thinking that the whole of the country where Alfred took refuge, and which must be at all times deeply interesting to Somersetshire men, had undergone in process of time such a change that none of them were in a position wisely and rightly to determine anything with respect to its former condition. There were, however, indications that there was formerly a water-course of some importance east and north of Chedzoy, and also that that portion of the country was very different in its contour than at the present time. It seemed probable, also, that at one time there were islands along, around and between the Parret and the Carey. The lowest ground was probably full of underwood, but without a great deal of very careful archæological investigation one could hardly tell how that was. He only regretted that Mr. Freeman and others, who were much better qualified to offer an opinion with respect to these matters than himself, were not present. With respect to Alfred's gem, referred to by the President, he had a little picture with him showing the jewel in question. He thought that Bishop Clifford was right in believing it to be the head of some ecclesiastical instrument, but that it was not needful to construct such an ingenious theory to account for it. He believed it was the termination of a staff held by the chanter or the precentor, as it was now called in a cathedral, and probably used for beating time.

The Rev. A. N. BULL, of Woolavington, exhibited a sketch of Chisley Mount, at Puriton, which the President said they intended visiting that afternoon, adding that they would be able,

perhaps, to devote a little more attention to it on account of the intended visit to the Sydenham Manor House having been abandoned.

The PRESIDENT then announced that the Meeting had closed, and suggested that they should now partake of the Mayor's hospitality.

The Members accordingly adjourned to the grand jury room, where lunch had been provided at the expense of the Mayor, Mr. James Leaker.

### S. Mary's Church

was then visited by the Members, who entered from High Street by the northern door. When most of them had assembled in the chancel,

The VICAR, Rev. W. G. Fitzgerald, remarked that they would observe that the edifice was of the Perpendicular style of architecture. Some of them, perhaps, had noticed the stone carving, and especially the band across the porch, which was almost unique, and really, he thought, almost the only interesting part of the building. He was sorry to say that many years ago there were destroyed three squints or hagioscopes, which were referred to by Parker in his *Glossary of Architecture*, who wrote as follows:—"In Bridgwater Church, Somerset, there is a series of these openings through three successive walls, through the same oblique line, to enable a person standing in the porch to see the high altar. In this and some other instances it seems to have been for the use of the attendant who had to ring the sanctus bell at the time of the elevation of the host. There are numerous instances of this bell being placed in a cot on the parapet of the porch, and as frequently there are windows or openings for a room over the porch into the church, probably for the purpose of enabling a person stationed in this room to see the elevation." The Vicar added that one feature of interest he should like to speak about was the picture forming the altar-piece. He was not able to tell them much about that, because it was doubtful who was the artist. The picture was, he believed, presented to the Mayor

and Corporation, on condition that it should be exhibited in that church, by the Hon. Anne (so named, because Queen Anne was his god-mother) Poulett, who was then the Parliamentary representative of the borough. It had always been a great question who was the artist, and as to whether it was the work of a Spanish, Italian, Flemish, or French master, though it was now pretty generally conceded that it was not Flemish. There were some points connected with it, such as the figure of Mary Magdalene—the style of the hair, and the blue band across it, which gave some the idea that it was of the Spanish school. The President of the Society had visited the church with him on the previous day, and was then of opinion that during his visits to Rome he had noticed a similar figure by an Italian artist; but whoever was the painter, it would be admitted that the picture was full of beauty.

Mr. G. PARKER mentioned that some years ago when Haydon came to Bridgwater to look at the picture with a view to its being sent to London to be cleaned, he expressed an opinion that it was by an Italian master.

The VICAR: That confirms, then, the opinion of Bishop Clifford. It would, he added, be noticed that some of the colours were as bright as if the painting had been only executed two or three years ago; and that, unlike many of their modern paintings, there were no signs of cracking. He might mention that Sir Joshua Reynolds made it a point, when going to and from Plymouth (of which place he was either a native or where he married), of coming all the way round from Salisbury to inspect it, and that he did so more than once, and remained in the church for some hours studying the painting.

Mr. JOHN TREVOR said the picture was supposed to have been captured on board a Spanish privateer.

Mr. HUNT said that, if he had seen the picture in Italy, he should have thought it was the work of some painter of the school of the Caracci, perhaps of Annibale Caracci himself. It was generally ascribed to Guido, though it seemed to lack the eleva-

tion and originality of that master. He had no doubt but that it was a production of the Bolognese School of the last part of the sixteenth century. It was an example of the studied grace and theatrical manner which marked the decline of art in a land which had lost its freedom.

In answer to a question, Mr. HUNT said that Guido and Domenichino were, he believed, both pupils of the Caracci.

Mr. HUNT said that he hoped the rain had not prevented the company from admiring the fine geometrical work of the north porch; he pointed out some of the windows in the nave which were of the same date, about the middle of the fourteenth century. The church had been restored early in the fifteenth century, and since that time church and tower had suffered much from restoration. He asked whether it would not be advisable one day to open the western end. No doubt there was some difficulty of a structural nature.

The VICAR replied that it had been a matter of great debate whether this could be accomplished. He was one of those who, having seen the data, thought that it was not impossible. The architect who restored the church some years ago, however, stated in his report that he did not think it could be opened, and he finished up by saying, "Remember Chichester Cathedral."

Mr. JOHN TREVOR: I think he said it could be done, but that the tower and steeple must first be removed.

The VICAR added that he was glad to inform them that they were about to spend £600 or £700 in some other improvements in the church, and amongst other things they were going to scrape the piers.

A MEMBER asked whether it was not feared, some years ago, that the tower and spire were unsafe.

The VICAR replied in the affirmative, adding that when he came there first the bells were never allowed to be rung.

Mr. TREVOR said that some vaults were very near the arch, and at one time there was a settlement in the tower.

Rev. J. E. ODGERS said that he had recently been allowed to

examine the registers of the church, which presented some points of interest. The earliest volume dated from the first year of Elizabeth, and came down to the year 1645. The two last pages of the book contained numerous entries, showing that Bridgwater was then in the thick of the civil war. From May, 1644, to July in the following year, they had constantly among the burials, "*Miles ignotus*," "*Miles bombardâ occisus*," "*dux*," "*major*," and so forth. These entries were in the writing of George Wotton, long curate to Mr. Devenish, but then vicar. The next volume began with quite a different handwriting, without signature, which Mr. Odgers took to be that of John Norman, the Puritan, who continued to minister in the neighbourhood after his ejection, and thus founded the old Presbyterian congregation of Christ Church. They found that shortly after the restoration George Wotton's handwriting appeared again in the register. He appeared to have had no unkindly feeling towards Norman, for, in 1668, he buried him with the entry, "*Johannes Norman, Presbiter doctus*." But the following year a vicar succeeded of more acrimonious temper—William Allen, from whose hand they had the following curious entries :—"In the year 1689 the Vicar was rated to the poor by order of William Massey, who was then Mayor, as he had been three years before. In the time of his first mayoralty he commanded the minister to be rated to the poor, though it was never known in this parish, and when he was made mayor in this year, in perfect spight he commanded it again. Whoever judges this man a lover of the Church or anything that relates to it, knows not the man. This man afterwards carry'd himself with that insolency and tyranny to all sorts of people that the inhabitants, Churchmen, Presbyterian, and others joyn'd together to ring out the bells for joy at his departure into Ireland, where he was prefer'd, and where it is thought he was poisoned." Again, under date 1690 :—"This Mr. Jno. Miles was the honestest churchwarden that hath been this one twenty years. He whited the church for twenty shillings, whereas before at several times they



paid five or six pounds for washing. He also new laid the pavement, which no opportunity could prevail on the others to doe, though they had church monies in their hands. May the curse of sacrilege lye upon such perjured wretches as alienate or consume what is given for the reparation of God's house." A note was appended, in the same writing, but probably later :— "This would be thought no severe imputation if the history of these sons of women that pretend to be 'sons of the Church' was written and transmitted to posterity." Among other entries which now struck them as curious were memoranda of certificates furnished to scoffulous persons about to be *touched* by the King, to the effect that they 'had not before been touched by his Sacred Majesty for the King's evil."

The VICAR said that it might interest some present to know that when one of the Whitfields came down to Bridgwater to preach, one of the fire engines was got out, and he was pumped upon, the Vicar assisting on the occasion, and this was entered on the minutes.

### *Admiral Blake's House.*

The Members next visited the house of Admiral Blake, in Blake Street. On their arrival there,

Mr. G. PARKER, its owner, explained to them that many years ago, in renovating the premises, he retained as much as possible of the old remains of the building, which spoke plainly of its authenticity. He showed the old kitchen, with an immense beam across the fire place, the kitchen seats, and where the window stood ; also a large square stone which was taken from a circular stone staircase. The Members were likewise shown an old corner cupboard, taken out of this kitchen, and which is now placed in a summer-cot at the end of a large garden. Mr. Parker also showed them his dining-room, where was the six-square ceiling, with the shields in the centre ; also a bold fluted chimney-piece, and other remains of the original building well preserved. On the table lay a deed, which he stated was a commemoration of the property of the mill, the

earliest records of the town, he said, spoke of this mill. The owner in 1709, as recorded in the deed, promised, upon certain conditions of agreement with the Corporation of Bridgwater, to convey in pipes water from the stream called the Durleigh stream, for the use of the inhabitants, to the High Cross, which stood on the Cornhill, to be repaid by the sale of the water. To encourage him the Corporation was to pay him £100; but when the deed was to be signed they refused.

### Bridgwater Castle.

The Members next proceeded to visit the site of the old Castle, first observing an old stone archway on the western quay (adjoining the office of Mr. G. B. Sully), which was generally admitted to be a water-gate entrance to the Castle, and to be in good, massive and perfect condition. Outside this spot

Dr. PRING, of Taunton, read the following paper :—"Bridgwater seems to have been greatly indebted in former times to Lord William Brewer, who is stated to have been in great favour with four successive kings, Henry II, Richard I, John, and Henry III. Prince, who devotes a chapter to him in his *Worthies*, relates that when Richard I was taken prisoner in Germany, on his return from the Holy Land, 'Lord Brewer came thither to him, and was one of the principal persons in the treaty held there with the Emperor for the liberty of the King.' Again, 'After the death of this King, this Lord Brewer was in no less favour with King John, when he assumed the English crown, who confirmed unto him several manors, and bestowed upon him divers wardships, and also gave him license to enclose his woods at Toare (now Torr), Cadeleigh, Raddon, Ailesberie (now Ailesbeer) in Devon, and Burgh-Walter (now Bridgwater), in Somerset, with free liberty to hunt the hare, fox, cat, and wolf, throughout all Devonshire. And further granted him an ample charter for his lordship of Brugge-Walter, that it should thenceforth be a free "burrough," and also to have a free market there every week, &c. Giving to this William license also to build three castles, one in Hantshire, at Eslege, or Stoke; another at

Brugge-Water, in the county of Somerset; and a third in Devon, wheresoever he should think fit, upon his own lands. His favour at Court rather increased than diminished when Henry III came to the throne, and besides many other high offices he discharged with great care and trust, many years, the "sheriffalty" of the counties of Nottingham, Derby, Dorset, Somerset, Hants, Wiltshire, Cornwall, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Devon, Sussex, and Gloucester. All which honours, public employments, civil and military places of trust, and high favour of no less than four kings following, duly considered, may speak him to have been one of the most extraordinary persons, either of his own or any time since.' He founded the Abbey of Tor, in Devonshire, also the Abbey of Dunkeswell (1202), where he was buried before the high altar in 1227. After that he built the Hospital of St. John, at Brug-Walter, in the county of Somerset, for thirteen poor people, besides religious and strangers, to pray for the souls of King Henry II, King Richard I, and King John. He moreover built the Castle, and made the haven of Brugge-Walter, and began the structure of that stone bridge there, consisting of three arches, which was afterwards finished by one Trivet, a gentleman, saith Dugdale, of Devonshire."

Just as Dr. Pring had concluded his reading, the members crossed the Quay to witness the approach of the tide known as the "bore."

Mr. ODGERS explained that the wave, which had just passed by, had that moment covered what was called a rock which was before visible in the centre of the river. He however believed it to be part of the old foundation of the Castle bridge, the latter being always kept distinct in the old records from the town bridge, and extending across to what was now known as the Castle field.

A few of the Members next visited Mr. Charles Head's wine-cellar on the Western Quay, which was also stated to form part of the old Castle, and of which Mr. DICKINSON said he should like the Society to have a plan.

The party having walked up Chandos-street, and reached the Square, Mr. GEORGE PARKER, pointing to the enclosed grounds in the centre, said he remembered when a boy seeing some of the remains of the old Castle there, before any of the surrounding houses were built. On the right was a large fosse, about thirty feet deep, and at the time of the siege this was filled with water. The remains he then saw were the old walls of the Castle.

Mr. E. GREEN said that towards the end of 1645, when the Castle was ordered to be destroyed, and the works round about it, some little difference arose between the garrison and the people outside. The soldiers, having taken the lead, determined that the works should remain, whereas the order of the Parliament was that they should be destroyed, and the country people coming in to insist on the destruction were shot down in various ways, and so began to learn that they were no longer the leaders in political affairs.

At the other corner of the Square, opposite the residence of Mr. Trevor, Mr. ODGERS stated that a few years ago a portion of the roadway there fell in and a chasm was found, the opening, it was believed, of a well belonging to the Castle, which was thus shown to be of very large dimensions.

The party then left in carriages for the **1400920**

## *Afternoon Excursion.*

The first halt was made at

### *Chisley Mount.*

The mound bearing the above name, is situate in a field alongside the roadway, and close to a hamlet known as Walpole, but marked "Downend" in the Ordnance Map, near the junction of the Puriton road and the turnpike road between Dunball and Pawlett. The sketch shown by Mr. Bull was examined on the spot, and the various entrenchments marked upon it were traced. The mound appears to be a small hill-fort

commanding the Parret, the course of the river in early times being considerably nearer to the mound. It was one of the many forts which were held to guard the mineral traffic of the country.

Mr. GREENHILL, the owner, said that the ground was quite untouched, and that he had determined that nothing should be done until after the visit of the Society. He said that many years ago a Roman road could be traced, starting from this mound, through the adjoining orchard, and along the ridge of the hill ; and that it seemed not unlikely that the road between Street and Glastonbury was connected with it. He thought that the mound might have been used in the trade carried on in tin with the Phœnicians.

Mr. HUNT suggested that there was no need to go back further than Roman times. He asked what Mr. Greenhill now proposed to have done with the land.

Mr. GREENHILL said that he thought of having the mound opened, to see if any remains were to be found inside ; that he should exercise great care in any search, and that he should not allow the face and appearance of the ground to be destroyed.

### *Chedzoy Church*

was next visited.

Mr. HUNT called attention to the tower, which was handsome, but without any continuity, the stages being strongly marked. The porch was evidently an addition, and was added when the Church received its Perpendicular alterations ; it bears the letters R.B., the initials of Richard Beere, the last Abbot of Glastonbury but one. Inside the Church is a remarkably fine piece of arcading, part of which has, however, been much cut away ; it is probably as early as the 13th century. The windows are handsome, with a fine inside splay, which has been considerably tampered with. The remains of the chantry are of an earlier date than the windows. There are some good bench ends, one of the time of Queen Mary, having the letter M, with a crown, encircled by a garter, &c., with the Tudor rose and the date 1559.



The PRESIDENT pointed out some Consecration-crosses on the outside. He said that these were generally painted, and ought strictly to be twelve in number.

The Rev. F. BROWN said that Dr. Rawley or Raleigh, Dean of Wells, and a nephew of Sir W. Raleigh, was formerly Rector of Chedzoy. His will was dated at that place, and was made shortly before he was driven out. Most of them probably remembered the sufferings and death of this unhappy man. He was taken from gaol to gaol, and was at last killed in his own house in Wells, where he was confined, by his keeper, one Barrett, a shoemaker. No investigation was made as to the cause of his death. He was imprisoned as a Royalist. A full account of his sufferings, and of the destitution of his family, is given in Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*.

Mr. H. C. WHITE directed attention to the altar-cloth, which is made from an embroidered cope found concealed beneath the pulpit. A full and interesting account of this splendid piece of work was read to the Society by Mr. Buckley, of Bruges, in 1871, and is to be found in the 17th volume of *Proceedings*, p. 49.

Mr. GILLO pointed out the stone on the south side of the Church, which is said to be worn away by the swords sharpened upon it before the battle of Sedgemoor.

The party then returned to Bridgwater, and dined together at the Clarence Hotel. After dinner a few toasts were given: The Queen; the Right Rev. President; the Mayor of Bridgwater, Mr. Leaker; &c.

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## The Evening Meeting

at the Town Hall was fairly attended.

Dr. PRING read a paper which excited much interest, "On the Influence of Artificially-formed Atmospheres in Modifying the Development of the Lower Forms of Living Organisms."<sup>2</sup>

The HIGH SHERIFF, Col. Pinney, thanked Dr. Pring for his paper, and for the beautiful diagrams which illustrated it. He said that he believed that hay-fever, a disease which pressed heavily on some people, was occasioned by infinitely small living organisms. He recollected Mr. Crosse's experiments very well. He believed that Mr. Crosse brought galvanic power into certain acids, and that thus extraordinary animalculæ were found in a fluid in which it was thought no life could exist. Mr. Crosse also employed atmospheric electricity, by placing lightning conductors in the large trees near his house, bringing the electric fluid thus collected into his laboratory, and there utilizing it for scientific purposes. At that time it was held that new creatures were called into existence.

Mr. F. J. THOMPSON said that he remembered Mr. Crosse stating to him that he never supposed that he could create, but only develope.

Dr. PRING said he had, at the time, carefully repeated Mr. Crosse's experiments as regards the *Acarus electricus*, passing a low galvanic current, as directed, through silicate of potash for three months in the dark; but without developing the animalcule in question. He understood, however, that Mr. Weekes, of Sandwich, had succeeded in obtaining specimens of it.

Mr. GREENHILL warned the audience of the danger of coming to a conclusion on insufficient premises. He thought that isolated experiments were slender proof, and that before the results were accepted as necessary consequences, a considerable series of such experiments should be made.

The Rev. J. ODGERS stated that Mr. Gillo, who had considerable experience in photography, had told him that he had again and again discovered in nitrate of silver some absolutely definite forms, resembling the microscopic creatures described by Mr. Crosse. It was singular that under such unlikely circumstances and through such a virulent medium these should be discovered, and this discovery seemed to be by no means an isolated circumstance.

Mr. E. GREEN read a paper on "The Siege of Bridgwater."<sup>3</sup>

Colonel PINNEY said he had listened with much interest and pleasure to Mr. Green's paper. He remembered that many years ago, when quite a young man, he formed one of another garrison of Bridgwater, in company with some gentlemen who were present now. He remarked on the change which had taken place in the lapse of two centuries in the appearance of towns, as so many like Langport and Lyme were then fortified which had lost all trace of their former defences, or like Bridgwater, preserved traces only.

Mr. BROWN thought that there was a sad falling off in the beauty of the country from the time when there were no ruins of castles or abbeys, when stately churches and strong fortifications stood intact, in all the splendour of their first days.

Mr. DICKINSON could not agree with Mr. Brown's lamentation. He believed that the country was far more beautiful than in times when but comparatively inefficient efforts had been made in draining, and reclaiming fens and waste lands. He also would remind Mr. Brown that there must have been ruins then, that castles were destroyed, and even churches desecrated and allowed to fall into ruin, before what were called modern times. If we had lost some of the picturesqueness of earlier times, we had lost much squalor with it.

Mr. HUNT had heard Mr. Green's paper with all the greater interest as his attention had been lately given to the Civil war. He wished to ask one question, and that was, what authority Mr. Green had for saying that the name Clubmen was derived from their associating or clubbing together for mutual protection. He had always thought that they were so called because they were for the most part rudely armed with clubs, and suchlike rustic weapons; at least, in the early days of the movement. That derivation was adopted by L. von Ranke in his *History of England*, and by Carlyle in Cromwell's *Letters and Speeches*, who says that "they were called *Clubmen*, not as M. Villemain sup-

poses, because they united in *Clubs*, but because they were armed with rough, country weapons, mere bludgeons, if no other could be had." The expression of Fairfax, "that he feared that, if he were put to the worst, the Clubmen would knock his men on the head," seems to bear out this view. No doubt many amongst them were armed with muskets, especially the leaders, who in some cases were country gentlemen of good position; for the movement, though at first one of neutrality and even of self-defence against the Royalist horsemen, was speedily used by the Royalists for their own purposes, just as in the East of England the Associations, which were first nominally only for mutual defence, were always anti-Royalist in feeling, and were speedily made most useful to the Parliamentarians. He allowed that the comparison between the Clubmen and the Associates, which he had just made, favoured Mr. Green's opinion, but at the same time, he believed that, the weight of evidence would be found sufficient to uphold the derivation from the weapon which was most commonly seen in the ranks of the Clubmen.

Mr. GREEN, in support of his opinion, said these neutrals were treated as cowards by both sides. By both they were taxed, and by the King's troopers so badly used that eventually they "started up into a third sort of army, and gathered together five or six thousand of the middle men, in a short time called by the name of Clubmen." Clarendon, writing of this, also calls them a "third sort," but "greater than either of the other, both in fortune and number." They were not, therefore, generally of the poorest. The first record of any local discontent is in May, 1643, when there was a large assemblage of these neutrals about Frome, and "being armed with various weapons, some with muskets, some with fowling pieces," they declared they feared neither the King nor the Parliament. Neither in the Parliament, nor out of it, relating to this circumstance, is there any mention of the word club. This rising was suppressed, and nothing prominent occurred through 1644. In June,

1645, the Prince of Wales being at Wells, received there a petition from some thousands of Clubmen, "most in arms," "armed as well as they could," and wearing, as evidence of their membership, white ribbons in their hats or coats. Their complaint was of the rapine and violence of the King's troopers. The Prince, in his reply, expressed his disapproval of their public meetings and their unwarrantable course of assembling together. Here they are now known as Clubmen, are "most in arms," and their great offence is "assembling together." They gave "passes" to their "Associates," and they had their Rules and Orders, under which they worked. Rule 10 ordered, that a constant watch should be kept in every parish, day and night. Rule 11, that the watchman should give a "hoop away" to call his neighbours together. Rule 13 provided, that all who heard the "hoop," and did not attend, should suffer for it. On the 30th June, at another large meeting, it was ordered that the "Associates" should find arms, set watches, and not favour or protect any but those of the "Association." At this meeting fourteen other propositions were discussed. Amongst these, it was determined that those who were able should provide themselves with horse and arms; that a course should be taken to obtain "ammunition," and that any who betrayed the plans of the Association should suffer death. As showing how dominant the associating was—about this time a man who had gone to Wincanton, to recover his stolen horse, was met on his way back to Salisbury, and arrested as a spy. He denied the charge, and asserted that he was a Clubman. Being questioned on this, he said he knew "no other end of that Association," than to defend themselves from plunder. There "were 700 in Salisbury," but "others were associated;" of these, "some were furnished with pikes and muskets, others with carbines." Here, again, there is no mention of clubs, and the "other weapons," become pikes and carbines. On his arrival at Dorchester, 3rd July, Sir Thomas Fairfax was warned of danger from these Club-risers, as Rushworth calls them. He determined to treat



them civilly, as, if he were worsted, they would "knock his men on the head as they should fly." Here, with the new word, Club-riser, fairly meaning a riser clubbed in union with others, occurs the idea of knocking on the head, suggestive of the club, in its curiously opposite sense, of a cleaver asunder. But this expression is often met with, used as now, not always in its literal sense. Thus, in 1644, the Royalist troopers—not the Clubmen—"knocked on the head" the women, whose husbands were for the Parliament. Again, at Drogheda, in 1649, the officers were "knocked on the head promiscuously." Cromwell went out to this party, some 2,000 strong, on Hambledon Hill. At the bottom of the hill he met "a man with a musket," and asking him where he was going, was told, "to the Club Army." Here is a pretty syllogism, but proving that the Club Army was not armed with clubs. Two parties sent up the hill were "fired upon," and the Clubmen refused "to lay down their arms." Some troopers were then sent up, when they "let fly at them" also, but being charged were dispersed, losing "a great store of arms." This being reported to the Parliament, an ordinance forbade any Associations of the kind, as high treason. Fairfax being advanced to Langport, was met there by a deputation of Clubmen, who presented to him their Articles of Association, showing their Rules, and that the Associates were to provide arms, &c. With this deputation were two "Club Divines," certainly not divines with clubs. It was now asked in London, "Will these clubs still pack together? If they do not sort themselves into better order, they will find the General will quickly trump them. It would be better for them, if they must club, to club with the modern Hercules, the mighty Sir Thomas Fairfax." Here the word is played upon, but the primary allusion is clearly to the packing together. At Bridgewater some 2,000 Clubmen were found assembled on Knoll Hill. The two Generals went out to them, and were greatly frightened at being received with "a most dangerous volley of shot," intended, as it proved, only as a "token of delight." Being

asked why they were thus assembled together, they made their usual answer,—For self-defence, &c. “Some of these,” says Sprigg, “were armed with muskets, some with fowling pieces, and some with clubs,” and, “if they had not been satisfied with the Generals’ propositions, their own clubs would have beaten reason into them.” Here occurs an actual mention of the word club as a weapon. Sir Thomas Fairfax, in a letter a little before this, also uses the word, describing a party as armed “with muskets, fowling pieces, pikes, halberts, great clubs, and the like.” The club here comes in as a very unimportant affair; and it is questionable if Fairfax saw them, as Cromwell, reporting the same event, mentions the fire-arms, but says nothing of clubs. Who Sprigg was is not known, it has been supposed that he was Sir Thomas Fairfax; if he saw all he records, he was a lucky and a busy man. These allusions would perhaps be strong, had they occurred at the beginning of the movement, but coming at the end of it, after the Associations had existed for two years, it is easy enough to see the simple idea, that a Clubman must be a man with a club. At this very time, another party assembled at Wraxall, and to these Prince Rupert went out from Bristol, with 200 foot and 2 pieces of ordnance. Accompanied by Sir Ferdinando Gorges and about 20 horse, he advanced towards them, but was soon stopped, as they had made good a bank, lined it with musketeers, and placed their horse on either flank. After some parley, the Prince was refused a passage, and bid wheel about or take the consequences. He chose the former. The assertion of Carlyle, a mere *ipse dixit*, entirely unsupported, is nullified almost in the same line, by his mention that M. Villemain, a previous writer, had given a contrary opinion. Granting that the argument still remains open, the inference from the general evidence is certainly clear and fair, that it was from their assembling and banding together in union, that this “third sort,” “came to be called Clubmen.”

Mr. HUNT, in reply, said that he thought that Mr. Green had

put weapons into his hand ; in arguing against the derivation from the arms of the clubmen, he had shown that the weapons they carried were various ; and, if they were all furnished with fire-arms, why should it be said that they were armed some with muskets, some with fowling-pieces. Why this showed that fire-arms were the exception and so it was expressly stated that some had them, though some even of these were only fowling-pieces. He also speaks of the clubmen at Wells being "most in arms, armed as well as they could." Why that surely means with clubs or anything else they could get. Mr. Hunt was quite ready to allow that Carlyle was no safe guide in philological matters, but in this case he thought that the derivation was fairly upheld in the *Letters and Speeches*. In a letter from Cromwell to Sir T. Fairfax, quoted by Mr. Green, he says that the Clubmen fired on a body of fifty horse sent against them, but only killed two men and four horses ; they probably, therefore, had but few fire-arms. They were easily dispersed, and Cromwell says that the most part of the prisoners he took were "poor silly creatures." Now silly at that time meant innocent or unwitting, as witness Milton's shepherds "silly thoughts" for their sheep, and this epithet would scarcely be applied except to a rustic company, and an army of such men would probably not be armed very well, or, if they had been, they would not have been spoken of so contemptuously by the Lieutenant-General. Clarendon speaks of these Clubmen as receiving encouragement from the gentlemen of the country. He says that Prince Rupert disliked the movement, as he was afraid lest they should be won over by the enemy ; but nevertheless some inferior officers of the army joined them, and it was then that they grew sufficiently powerful to attack Fairfax. The whole tenor of his account seems to represent a considerable increase of the movement in numbers and efficiency. Though it seems that firearms were found, and even in some quantity amongst them, yet their earlier weapons were such as clubs, and so the name of the force arose.

Mr. GREEN considered that he had fairly proved his point.

Mr. SURTEES said that he thought it highly probable that the political club derived its name from the weapon. The meetings of the Ship-caulkers at Boston, just before the revolutionary war, unquestionably caused one-sided political meetings to be called caulkers meetings, now corrupted into caucus meetings. So, perhaps, the gatherings of the young "bloods" of London, armed with clubs for purposes of fun and mischief, may well have been called club meetings, and have given the name to social and political associations. He was not aware when the earliest instance of a political club occurred which bore the name.

Mr. HUNT said that he did not know of any political club so called before the famous one at Edinburgh in the beginning of the reign of William III, which was called simply "The Club." The suggestion of Mr. Surtees called to mind the fact that clubs were often seen, and the cry often heard in London in old times. Every one would remember the lively scene with which Sir W. Scott's *Fortunes of Nigel* opened: so a more dignified authority, the antiquary Stow, describes just such a scene as happening in Henry the Eighth's reign, when the Prentices resisted one of the Aldermen, who arrested a young man for playing at the Bucklers in Chepe, and they cried "Prentices, Prentices, Clubs, Clubs," and clubs, and other weapons came out at every door, so that the Alderman had to flee. He thought that these Prentices might be called clubmen, because they used clubs.

A question was asked as to the derivation of the word club.

Mr. HUNT asked whether a club was not originally a bundle of sticks rather than one massive one. If so, might not the word be connected with *clufan*, to cleave, a club being a number of cleft sticks which bound together made the club, as the Roman *fascēs* were bundles of sticks bound together?

Mr. DICKINSON said that such a derivation supposed rather too much.



Mr. GREEN believed that the connexion of club and the Latin *globus* had been satisfactorily established.

The Right Rev. PRESIDENT then called upon Dr. FARMER to read a paper written by Mr. G. Parker, whose health did not allow him to be present. It treated of the ancient history of Bridgwater and its neighbourhood.

The substance of Mr. PARKER'S paper is as follows :—  
“I can carry back my memory to about seventy-three years : at that time the site upon which stood the Bridgwater Castle was our play-ground as school-boys. It is partly built upon now by houses, called King's Square. Then it was surrounded by wooden palings. At that time the ruins of the old Castle could be seen, also the holes and pits which had been made in digging out its foundations. The Castle is said to have been built by William de Briwere in 1216. It was in good preservation at the beginning of the seventeenth century. Its decay and destruction must be dated from the siege of 1645. Its walls were fifteen feet thick, and it was surrounded with forty guns. Towards the north was a wide ditch, called then the Bailey ditch, this, no doubt, formed part of the moat, which was originally thirty feet wide, and of great depth. Vaults which are now used as bonded cellars, near the present Custom House, it is supposed, communicated with the Castle from the river, as between the Custom House and Castle-street places have been seen, (and I believe even now some trace of them is found,) that opened into those vaults. These may have been made useful at the time of the siege, as Colonel Wyndham, the gallant commander of the Castle, took every means he could to defend the town. We can also trace remnants of the wall which still remain towards the west, leading to Dr. Morgan's school, and which formed part of the defence ; and on the east end of the town, near where Barclay Street stands, were very high mounds of earth, in which, when removed for building purposes, the workmen found human bones, bullets, swords, and other military weapons. At the entrances to the town, north,



east, west, and south, were strong stone arches, upon which were hung iron gates. They were removed some years ago, when the increased travelling and the general improvement of the town demanded it. It is recorded that at the south gate a determined fight took place with some of the rebel army, who marched from Taunton, but who received such a complete defeat that those who could were glad to retire to the place from which they came. Still, we learn from history that Cromwell and his army prevailed, and when Bridgwater Castle was at length surrendered there was found, it is said, treasure in plate and jewels to the value of £100,000. Hostages came out for the submission of the Governor, consisting of Sir Hugh Wyndham, Mr. Walrond, Mr. Warre, Mr. Sydenham, and Mr. Speke. This took place in 1645. In 1685, the Duke of Monmouth, who aimed at the throne of England, came with part of his army to Bridgwater, and, accompanied by Lord Grey, mounted St. Mary's Church tower, and with a telescope surveyed the country towards Sedgemoor, where lay the King's army. Through all these battles and sieges we have still good old St. Mary's Church and tower, which latter is ornamented with a handsome steeple, the top part of which was some years since rebuilt, having been shattered by lightning during a heavy thunderstorm. William de Briwere, it appears, was a great benefactor to the town in ancient days. He it was who built the Castle and began the structure of the old stone bridge, which was finished by Sir Thomas Trivett, and consisted of three arches. He founded, also, the Hospital of St. John's, the site of which stood at the end of Eastover. A stone coffin and other relics have been dug up there from time to time. His son, William de Briwere, after the example of his father, founded a priory of Minorites, called Grey Friars. The site of this priory was at the west end of the town. The best remnant we have of it is an old door in Silver Street; the fields also near the Friars were part of its property."

The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Parker for his paper, and the meeting ended.

## Wednesday.

The weather this day was very unfavourable, for it rained persistently and heavily. Not more than eighty ventured to start upon the excursion, and left the Clarence Hotel at 10 a.m. The first halt was made at

### North Petherton Church.

The principal architectural features were pointed out by Mr. HUNT. He observed that the Church was a fine specimen of the local Perpendicular. Its most remarkable feature was the handsome and lofty western tower, of much the same character as the tower of Dundry ; it increased in lightness and richness as it ascended. The porch was evidently a later addition, for one of the gargoyles was placed directly over it, which would not have been done had the porch been standing at the time. The interior of the Church was spacious, though without any striking features of interest. The windows were rather ugly, and the heavy transoms marred the general effect. A fine and boldly-executed corbel supported the pulpit, but it had evidently been removed from some other place. Behind the east wall was a vestry or priest's room, an arrangement which seemed especially local, and of which instances might be seen at Martock and Langport. The peculiarity of the arrangement here was that there was only one door, that on the north side of the altar, while in most cases where there is such a room, there was a door on each side. The difference in date of building was marked by the string-course, which followed a different line from the junction of the wall of this vestry with the chancel. There was a piscina in the north aisle belonging to a chapel ; this was almost hidden by the high-backed seats, which were still retained in the Church. In the vestry were some interesting monumental brasses, which had been taken from the floor of the Church. One was to Eleanor, wife of William Powlett, daughter of Philip Delamere, son of John Delamere of Nunney, who died April 28, 1413. Another

was to the wife of a former vicar, bearing the inscription, "Here lyth the body of Katherine Morley, wife of John Morley, Vicar of this Parish, whose godly life and death wrote her own epitaph : 1652." The patronage of the Church belonged to the Prior of the Hospital of St. John in England, and the Priory of Mynchin Buckland received an annual pension from it.

A short drive brought the party to

### *Lyng Church,*

which stands on a bank close to the road to Athelney. Here again Mr. HUNT made some remarks on the building. The tower is tall and light, and the gargoyles on its corners are singularly fine. The Church consists only of a nave and chancel. There is a handsome canopied recess in the south wall of the chancel. Mr. Hunt said that he was inclined to think it of the 14th century, but as the chancel had evidently been lately through some considerable repairs he should not like to say that it was not 19th century work, and, although the carving was very fine, he could not say that he liked the shape of the canopy ; he thought that in some ways the recess looked more like a piscina than sedilia, the space was full large for one person and not large enough for two.

The sexton at this point came forward and said that the sedilia had just been put in. A letter has since been received from the Rector, Mr. R. K. Meade King, pointing out that this was a mistake. "The facts," Mr. Meade King writes, "are shortly these. A few years ago I filled two of the chancel windows with stained glass, the work being very creditably executed by Mr. O'Connor, of Berners street, London. At the same time I directed the Ham Hill stone-masons, whom I employed, carefully to scrape off all the plaster and whitewash which defaced the sedilia. In doing so, they discovered that the stone seat was missing, its place being supplied by a quantity of rubble, mortar, and plaster. This I had removed and a new Ham stone seat substituted. Hence possibly the mistake of the sexton. No other alteration

of any kind was made to the sedilia, which is no doubt of very early work, and I was especially careful not to meddle with the canopy, which has been much admired, except to scrape off the whitewash with which it was coated."

There is a fine Norman font. The bench ends, which Mr. Hunt considered to be 16th century work, are carved with boldness and grace. The entrance to the rood-loft has disappeared, but a small piece of wall outside the Church marked the stairs of the former turret, and the door is probably concealed by the plaster.

Mr. DICKINSON was sorry to see that the process of beating off the plaster and exhibiting the bare stones had been already begun.

The VICAR said that he was anxious to carry out a full restoration of the Church. He believed that the ancient roof still existed, and might be opened up.

The PRESIDENT said that the Church did not need that much should be done, and the little that might be done with advantage should be done with great care, so as not to do away with any old and interesting features.

The SEXTON called attention to a very old chest in the tower, scooped out of the trunk of a tree.

### *Athelney*

was next visited, the party making a halt below the site of King Alfred's monastery. All traces of the building have entirely disappeared, but in Collinson's time parts of the supports to the roofs and other stone-work remained to mark the spot. A very good crop of wheat was growing over the old monastery site, and the lessee of the farm, to which the grounds are attached, had kindly cleared a portion of this away so that the party might be able to examine the Alfred Monument, which has been put up there. Several of the farm labourers produced portions of the tessellated pavement of the monastery which had been turned up by the plough, and some of the most perfect specimens were secured for the Society's museum.

Bishop CLIFFORD acted as guide to the party here, and pointed out the principal points which he had mentioned in his opening address. He said that the point they were standing on was that mentioned by William of Malmesbury as the only dry part of the island. It gave room for a monastery and a small portion of pasture land; but the island itself, the historian said, was of greater extent, as the whole of the ground between the place where they stood and the Mount was all flat, and at one time must have been a marsh. In the 13th century, Malmesbury says, there was a great island of low marshy ground, surrounded by bogs and marshes, with lakes beyond. It would appear that when Alfred came to the spot he made use of the whole of the place. Here it was that Alfred threw a bridge across the Parret, and on the top of the Mount he built a fort, which Asser praises for the beauty of its construction. Asser says that the bridge had a laborious prolongation, and that it was built between two forts that were on eminences. The most important of these two forts was the one already mentioned as having been erected on the Mount, the other was about a mile distant on the high ground near Othery. The laborious prolongation of the bridge extended between these two forts across the marsh, following the course of the present embankment and the turnpike road to Othery. In Dugdale a charter is mentioned by which the monks of Athelney held the land, on condition that they were to keep the forts and bridge in good repair.

From the site of the Monastery the party drove to

### *Borough Bridge*

and walked to the top of the Mount or, as it is locally called, the Mump. Here are the ruins of a never-finished Church; on the walls is the date of its building, 1724.

The PRESIDENT, having assembled the party at the top, said that they could now see the field, of which he had spoken in his paper, from a different point. He showed how the place they



had left and the spot on which they now stood would correspond, the former with the few acres of rising ground mentioned by William of Malmesbury as the only portion of dry land to be found on the island of Athelney, the latter with the site of the fort of rare construction, mentioned by Asser as having been raised by Alfred to guard the approach to the island. The bridge was thrown across the Parret, near the foot of the Mount, and communicated with what was in Alfred's time the low and swampy portion of the island covered with alders. The prolongation of the bridge mentioned by Asser was a causeway extending from this same Mount in the opposite direction across the marsh till it reached the rising ground near Othery. Once established in this impregnable position, Alfred could at his leisure work out his plans against the Danes, who were encamped in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater. From his fort on the summit of the Mount he could look out on the surrounding country, and choose the most opportune moments for making his sallies on the enemy. The causeway gave him access along the high ground of the island of Middlezoy to the enemy's quarters, so that by constant attacks he could keep them occupied, and draw away their attention from the preparations which were being made some thirty miles distant, on the eastern side of the forest of Selwood, where a large army of Saxons was being assembled by the orders of Alfred. It took seven weeks to collect these forces, during the whole of which period Alfred, say the Chronicles, fought daily with the Danes from the fort of Athelney. It is, therefore, beyond all doubt that the Danish army was in the neighbourhood of Athelney, and not in Wiltshire. As soon as Alfred received information that a sufficiently large force had been assembled to the east of Selwood, he rode thither from Athelney in one night, and placing himself at their head led them to attack the Danes. He led them, therefore, from the east of Selwood to the country near Athelney, where the Danes were; and the first battle and overthrow of the Danes took place at Ethandune, or near Edington on Polden

Hill, opposite Athelney, not at Eddington, in Wiltshire, as it has been supposed. After the overthrow of the Danes, Gothrum, their chief, was baptised at Alre or Ailer, which is close to Athelney, that being the nearest Church to the battle field which had not been desecrated by the Danes, owing no doubt to its being situated on an island in the marsh. On the opposite side of Polden Hill lies Wedmore, a royal residence, where Alfred afterwards entertained Gothrum, and where the treaty of peace was signed.

Mr. DICKINSON observed that in old times the river Cary pursued a more northerly course than it now did, and that its channel had been turned for purposes of drainage.

The PRESIDENT said that he had a map, dated 1660, in which the Cary was made to run at the back of the Mount. Phelps, in his *Somerset*, gave an account of the drainage, in which he said that the Cary ran a little above Borough Bridge, and was diverted when the cut was made.

The party then adjourned to the Borough Bridge School-room, where the Local Committee had most kindly provided a handsome luncheon.

### Othery

was next visited, and the Church of S. Michael was much admired.

Mr. HUNT begged the party before they entered the building to have a good look at the tower. In the first place it is not usual to find so lofty a Perpendicular steeple in the centre of the Church. Mr. Freeman pronounces it to be *sui generis*. Its special peculiarity consists in the bold diagonal buttresses, which do not run up to meet the pinnacles, but finish lower down. The handsome window, of which the greater part is filled with traceried stone, seems like an effort after the tower of the Wrington type. The Church is unusually low, and the building seems to belong to the 13th century, though with details both of the 14th and especially of the 15th century. There is a distinct and alarming subsidence on the south side of the tower.

Some of the bench ends are finely carved. There is a curious hole pierced in one of the buttresses on the south side which corresponds with a small window in the chancel. Mr. Hunt was inclined to consider this window as either a leper window or used for an analogous purpose. Lepers, or those who for other causes were forbidden to enter the church, might stand on the other side of these buttresses, protected, probably, by a small roof resting upon the slant of the buttresses, and could there see through these openings the elevation of the Host.

Mr. DICKINSON differed from this opinion. He believed that the window was made to allow light from within to be seen.

Mr. REYNOLDS said that a Belgian gentleman of his acquaintance had told him that he had often been guided at night, when in danger of losing his way, by the altar-light through windows of precisely this character.

The PRESIDENT said that he was unwilling to speak decidedly; that he thought that it was a matter in which they could go no further than probabilities.

Tea and coffee were kindly provided at the Vicarage, and the splendid embroidered cope of the 15th century was there looked at.

### *Middlezoy.*

Mr. HUNT observed that the details of the building belonged to the Decorated or Geometrical style. The windows were somewhat French in type. The roof was of the 17th century. The first three bosses on which it rested, reckoning from the east, were more elaborately carved than the rest; and this, along with some marks on the walls, marked the extent of the rood-loft. The rood-turret was gone, but a small lean-to on the north side of the Church still showed where the steps went up to the loft. There was a good miserere in the chancel, which had evidently been imported from some church which contained a line of stalls. The chancel arch had been tampered with in a strange way. Underneath the east window of the south aisle was a curious flat buttress. Mr. Hunt said that it was difficult to form any

opinion as to the reason or use of this buttress. He thought it likely that an altar had once stood under the window, with a reredos above it in the window, and resting on its cill, and that the buttress had been built into the wall to resist the extra weight and pressure. The east window of the Church, though singularly fresh, was, he believed, of the 14th century. The tower was plain and massive in order to resist the storms, it was wider east and west than it was north and south.

Mr. N. WELMAN read some curious entries in the vestry book, among these were, "To ringing the bells for the Prince of Wales, 1688, one shilling." "For killing three hedgehogs, one shilling," &c. A brass on the floor of the nave bore the famous "rebel" inscription, "Here lyes the body of Louis Chevalier de Misieres, a French gentleman, who behaved himself with great courage and gallantry 18 years in ye English services, and was unfortunately slaine on the 16th of July, 1685, at ye battle at Weston, where he behaved himself with all ye courage imaginable against ye King's enemies, commanded by ye Rebel Duke of Monmouth."

### *Weston Zoyland Church*

was next visited. The stay here was short, owing to the rain.

Mr. HUNT remarked the fine and lofty Perpendicular tower, from which a good view is to be had of the scene of the battle of Sedgemoor. He said that the nave was of unusual length, as were also those of North Petherton and Bridgwater. A Perpendicular nave of such noble proportions was a fine sight, so many of our Somersetshire churches were disfigured by the nave being cramped—a defect which could be seen in its worst phase at Wrington. Here the line of the clerestory was full of beauty and grace. The Church had evidently been much pulled about, and pieces of the string-course on the south wall, leading nowhere, were puzzling. The rood-turret in this Church also had been cut away, leaving only a round stone column in the wall which once bore the steps. The monogram on the south wall of the

Church was "R. B.," standing for Richard Beere, the last Abbot of Glastonbury but one, who is said to have built the Church, but who probably had it recast with Perpendicular alterations. A recumbent figure of a priest was in good preservation.

The party then returned to Bridgwater, and dined together that evening. After dinner Mr. Hunt, the Secretary in charge of the excursion, said that he was sorry to have to desert his post, but that he was obliged to return home that evening, and, expressing his regret for the absence of Mr. Freeman and others, who were wont to help them by their explanations and comments, he begged leave to hand over his charge to the Rev. F. Brown, one of the former Secretaries of the Society.

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## The Evening Meeting

was fairly attended, and the President, who was again in the chair, called upon Mr. Surtees to read a paper on Barrington Court, by Mr. Bond, who was unavoidably absent.

MR. SURTEES explained that he was there as deputy for Mr. Hunt, who was anxious that the paper should be printed in the Transactions of the Society, but who was not able to read it for Mr. Bond, as he had hoped to have done. He then read the paper, which is printed in Part II. of this volume.

MR. WELMAN said that it might be interesting to add that Barrington Court was occupied by Mr. Phillips, the Solicitor-General, at the time of the Gunpowder Plot, and that the depositions of Guy Fawkes were still at Montacute, the seat of his descendant.

Col. PINNEY, the High Sheriff, observed that all who had seen Barrington Court must have been struck by its beauty. He always understood that it had been built by one of the Phillipseſ, who afterwards built Montacute. He had heard the paper of Mr. Bond read with great interest, and thought that



the thanks of the Society were due to him for illustrating, as few were able to do, the history of so important a mansion.

The Rev. J. E. ODGERS next read a paper on "M.S. Accounts of the Commonalty of Bridgwater," which is printed in Part II.

On the proposition of Mr. DICKINSON, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Odgers for his valuable and amusing contribution.

Mr. W. L. WINTERBOTHAM then read a paper on "The Geology of Otterhampton," which had been sent to him for that purpose by the Rev. T. WOODHOUSE, formerly Rector of that parish, who much regretted his inability to attend the meeting of the Society. In this paper, which will be found in Part II, Mr. Woodhouse gave several interesting reminiscences concerning the inroads of the sea in the neighbourhood of Otterhampton, and especially at Steart.

Mr. DICKINSON said there could be no doubt that the shingle had been removed from the coast outside Steart very largely of late years, as Mr. Woodhouse had stated, and great mischief had resulted from it. How it was to be prevented, he knew not, for a representation had already, he believed, been made to the Admiralty respecting it, without effect. The material brought from Steart was very good for road-making and repairing, for which it was largely used; but the removal of this protection against the inroads of the sea was a very serious matter.

Mr. J. PARSONS said he thought he could throw a little light on this matter by stating, as one of the Commissioners of Sewers, that a great deal of litigation had gone on respecting the removal of these pebbles, the damage caused by which had been excessive, and that their removal was now entirely stopped, persons being no longer allowed to cart them away.

Mr. J. TREVOR added that, when this question was brought before the Commissioners of Sewers, a committee was appointed to view the spot. Sir A. Hood was chairman of that committee, and he (Mr. Trevor), as a member of it, accompanied him there. He had not seen the beach for some years before, and was greatly surprised to perceive the alteration which had taken place.

He recollected the farm-house and gate referred to by Mr. Woodhouse, but these were all gone ; and, owing to the pebbles having been taken away in barges and sent to Bridgwater for the repair of the roads, the sea had made a very great encroachment. The opinion of counsel was taken on the point, and he advised that parties had no right to interfere with the protection which the bank afforded, and in consequence notices were sent out that those who persisted in removing the stones would be proceeded against. Very few complaints were now made of such removals, and, he believed, the stones were again accumulating. With regard to the island referred to, which had now almost disappeared, he recollected, when his uncle was curate of Burnham, going across to it, and at that time a public-house was standing there.

Colonel RAWLINS remarked that 57 years ago, when he was one year old, he was taken to lodgings at Steart for the benefit of his health, and a very healthy spot it was. With regard to the encroachments of the sea spoken of, he did not believe these pebble ridges were as efficacious as they were supposed to be, for the sea frequently broke over them. He remembered, when in the Madras Presidency, that, as such a ridge was found to be an ineffectual bulwark, a plan was contrived of throwing out rows of stone about three hundred yards apart, and as the intervening spaces got filled up with mud, sand, &c., a great deal of land was gained from the sea. He thought it possible that some plan of the same sort might be adopted at Steart with much advantage.

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## Thursday

was considerably finer than the day before, and a large party started at 10 a.m. for the Excursion. On the way to the Cannington Park Quarries, a visit was paid to

### Street Farm.

This interesting old residence is now rented by Mr. Wm.

Rood, and belongs to the Earl of Cavan. It is a fair example of the domestic architecture of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Portions of the house have been removed, and considerable alterations have been made in what remains, so that it is difficult to discern the original ground-plan ; but there are still features about the place which render a visit to it peculiarly interesting. The common hall, with its minstrels' gallery and raised dais, where the master of the house and his family sat, has disappeared, but a domestic chapel remains in a good state of preservation. It is now used as a china closet. The chapel is only large enough to accommodate the priest and his assistant, and, that the religious ceremony might be seen when mass was being performed, three peculiar squints have been made in the walls ; two slanting ones affording a view of the altar from a spacious room on the first floor, and one in the side walls affording a view from one of the rooms on the ground floor. In the chapel there is a piscina, remains of the altar, and places for two figures, and a receptacle evidently used for keeping the sacred vessels. The winding staircase shows a wealth and lavish use of oak timber, which was common enough in those days, but which would be quite impracticable now. The steps are all made of a single block of oak.

The Rev. F. BROWN gave a few genealogical particulars of the families which occupied the manor house, showing that their descendants are still connected with the county of Somerset. The Manor of Cannington was granted to Sir Edward Rogers on the 8th of May, 1538. It was before that time part of the priory of Buckland. Sir Edward Rogers came of a Bradford (Yorkshire) family, and was knighted in the year 1548. He did not know how the connexion between him and Queen Elizabeth took place, but it is quite certain that at her first Council at Hatfield, in 1558, she made Sir Edward Rogers a privy councillor, a chamberlain of the household, and captain of the guard. He died in 1568. The Rogers, though now entirely extinct, were connected by marriage with almost all the leading

families of the county of Somerset. Sir Edward was succeeded by Sir George Rogers, who married an heiress to large estates in Cornwall. This lady made several bequests of money for charitable purposes, among them being a curious bequest of three shillings to be paid to three poor widows of Cannington for a thousand years—of course not the same widows. Sir George Rogers died in 1582, and was succeeded by his son Edward. He married a daughter of Sir John Popham, the celebrated judge, and had many children. Sir Francis Rogers married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Hugh Smith, of Ashton. Amy married a Baronet of Hampshire; Elizabeth married Thomas Bamfield, near Frome; Mary married Sir George Wynter, of Dynham; and their descendants still hold some of the property around Porlock. Others married persons not connected with the county. All the property ultimately vested in the person of Eleanor, who married Sir Francis Popham, of Littlecoat. How it passed afterwards from Sir Francis Popham he did not know.

Bishop CLIFFORD said the manor was now Crown property.

It was stated by a Member that the bequest mentioned still existed, and was paid every year.

Col. PINNEY said some question had been raised as to where the old hall was. He believed that in all these old houses they entered into the common hall first, and, from appearances he could detect, it must have been on the left as they entered this building. The centre part of the structure consisted of an open court, beyond the court was the kitchen, the people in those days having quite as great a dislike to the smell of cooking as we have now, and the small pent-house, which was used when the dinner was brought in, still existed.

The party then went on to

### *Cannington Park Quarries.*

Mr. BIDGOOD, Curator of the Society's Museum, here offered some remarks on the nature of the Cannington Park limestone, of which the following contains the general purport:—The



geological position of the Cannington Park limestone has been a puzzle to geologists for a considerable time ; but during the past few years the general opinion has been in favour of its carboniferous origin. The fossils from these quarries in the Society's Museum (presented by the late Mr. Baker) have been identified as of carboniferous age, and the limestone itself bears a general resemblance, as regards structure, colour, &c., to the mountain limestone of the Mendip Hills. As long ago as 1816, Leonard Horner, in his "Sketch of the Geology of the South-West Part of Somerset," published in the *Transactions of the Geological Society*, discussed the subject. He considered the limestone to be of transition (Devonian) origin, and stated his opinion that, although no organic remains had hitherto been discovered in this limestone, it was very probable that, by a more minute examination, madrepores and shells would be found there, for there were laminae of calcareous spar dispersed through it, which were strong indications of organic remains. In 1837, the late Rev. D. Williams read a paper before the British Association, wherein he mentions this subject, and places the limestone below the Devonian rocks ; but subsequently he appears to have considered them as of the same age as the limestones of the Quantocks. Professor Phillips and Sir H. de la Beche considered the limestone to be of Devonian origin, and of the same age as the limestones of the Quantocks ; but the latter states that the connexion with the Quantocks cannot be traced satisfactorily. The late Mr. Wm. Baker, of Bridgwater, however, in 1853, in a paper read before this Society, and published in their *Proceedings* (Vol. III, p. 125), abandons views previously held by himself, and, in opposition to the opinions of the Geological Survey and other authorities on this subject, upholds the carboniferous origin of the Cannington Park limestone, announcing at the same time the discovery of fossils, which he believed to agree in character with fossils from the mountain limestone of the Mendip Hills. The discovery of a fossil shell<sup>4</sup>

(4). This specimen has recently been presented to the Museum by Mrs. Payne.



was first made by the late Mr. J. H. Payne, in October, 1852, and subsequent search by Mr. Baker and others produced several species of shells and corals. Mr. J. H. Payne, in a paper on the "Geology of the Quantocks," published in the Society's *Proceedings* (Vol. V), says, "The limestone bed of Cannington Park is of a very different appearance to any we observe in the Quantocks, and I cannot consider it as being analogous ; indeed, I have very little doubt in my own mind that we shall succeed in placing it as a true mountain limestone, and having geological reference to the Mendip range, rather than to the Quantocks." Notwithstanding this evidence as to the carboniferous origin of the Cannington Park limestone, Mr. Etheridge, in 1867, as Palæontologist to the Geological Survey, published his opinion that the limestone was of Devonian origin, and an outlier of the Quantocks. He, however, gives no reasons for this opinion, and adduces no fossil evidence, so that considerable doubt is thrown upon his statement, and the results by which he arrived at such a conclusion. In 1871, Messrs. Bristow and Woodward, of the Geological Survey, communicated a paper to the *Geological Magazine*, wherein they considered the Cannington Park limestone to be of carboniferous age, presenting the ordinary features of the mountain limestone of the Mendip Hills, Clifton, and South Wales. In the *Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists Society*, Mr. Tawney has reviewed the subject, and considers that the evidence is conclusively in favour of the limestone being carboniferous. The determination of these rocks as of carboniferous origin would materially strengthen the probability of the existence of coal south of the Mendips ; and it is therefore not at all improbable that under the Somersetshire marshes may exist some portions at least of the coal measures.

The PRESIDENT thanked Mr. Bidgood for his remarks, and regretted the absence of Mr. Winwood, Mr. Moore, and others, who might have carried on the subject. The spot on which they now stood gave him, he said, an opportunity of pointing out the scene of King Alfred's deeds. Just before them was

the place spoken of by Asser, where the King defeated the Danes after they had landed, and before he went to Athelney. The Danes landed in the hollow which faced the quarry, and the Saxons went down to meet them, and at the first encounter were defeated. A few, however, went to a neighbouring fort, which had only a loose wall, but was inaccessible on all sides except from the sea. The Danes, instead of attempting to take the place by assault, set a guard to prevent the Saxons from getting to the springs of water that were at a little distance from the hill on which the Saxon fort stood. But suddenly, at daybreak, the Saxons threw themselves on the Danes, defeated them, and killed their chief and many of his followers, and carried off the spoils. Though the Danes were thus defeated, they remained (writes Ethelward) in possession of the ground. Bishop Clifford explained how this could happen by pointing out the locality. The hill known as Cannington Park, near the quarries, was, he said, the site of the Saxon fort, which by some Chroniclers is called Kenwit or Kenwit-tun, which he sought to identify with Cannington. The fort or camp still remains, constructed of loose stone as Asser describes it; the springs are near the quarries, where the Danish chief and his guards were posted to watch the Saxons. The Danes had landed near Comwich, but a large portion of their forces were probably on the opposite bank of the river at the time when the unexpected sortie of the Saxons took place. At low tide the river cannot be passed, for the deep mud prevents its being forded, and the boats are useless from the absence of water. The Saxons knew this, and timed their attack accordingly. The Danes on the opposite side of the Parret were unable to come to the assistance of their comrades till the tide rose. They then came over in force, and were masters of the field; but it was too late. The Saxons having overpowered the guards and slain the Danish chief, had made good their retreat to the Quantocks some time before. Thus, concluded the Bishop, the words of Ethelward, which have caused much difficulty to historians, viz., that the Danes, though

defeated, remained masters of the field, receive an easy and simple explanation from an inspection of the locality. Asser says that this battle took place in Damnonia, and the Chronicles say Defnescire; and the Bishop contended that as Damnonia extended to the Parret, so also originally did Defnescire, and that the addition to Somersetshire of the country west of the Parret was made at a later period than A.D. 878, when this battle was fought.

Mr. SLOPER considered that the opinions advanced by the President were not borne out by the earliest and best Chronicles; that his etymology was faulty, and his topography mistaken. He urged with some warmth that the battle did not take place at Cannington, but at Countisbury in Devon. He allowed that the root in Cannington was the same as that in Cynuit, namely, the Celtic *Cenn* or head, but he declared Countisbury to be only a corruption of Cynuit, and he believed that Pen was really the forest of Exmoor. The Chronicles were, he thought, explicit as to the battle having taken place in Devon. As to Ubbaslowe being the burying place of Ubba, he had been there, and believed that it was nothing more than an artificial mound, raised to give refuge to sheep and cattle in time of flood.

No discussion followed this attack, and the party proceeded to

### *Stogursey, or Stoke Courcy.*

Here there was much to interest visitors in the Norman Church. Sir ALEXANDER HOOD pointed out to the President the extent and nature of the late restoration.

The PRESIDENT said that this was one of the handsomest Churches in the county, and he only wished that Mr. Freeman had been there to explain its different beauties to them. Sir Alexander Hood had, however, pointed out the restorations which had been carried out, and he would convey to them what Sir Alexander had told him. Stogursey was the great seat of the De Courcys—the De Courcelles mentioned in Domesday,—and it was not surprising, therefore, to find here a Norman Church of considerable

dimensions and great beauty. The oldest part of the building was the tower, which was built over the centre of the Church. The body of the Church had been rebuilt, and there were records extant giving the items for rebuilding it, in the reign of Henry VII. The tower was remarkable on account of its not being square. It was built oblong, and they would at once perceive the advantage of such an arrangement in a large Church like this. Many of the Norman Churches in this country were built in the same way. The massive masonry of the transeptal arches would have the effect of shutting out the chancel from the view of the congregation, but to avoid this the tower was built in the shape of a rectangle, and the front arches were built wider than the others. The pavement of the nave was now at the original level. Before the restorations were undertaken, the floor was above the pediments of the front chancel arches, and at another period the floor descended from the porch to the chancel steps, so as to give the people behind a better opportunity of seeing. The transepts and chancel were approached by a series of steps, and this arrangement added to the noble appearance of the building. There had been a rood-screen, which was now removed, but whether that was part of the original disposition of the interior he was unable to say. The old Norman font was a particularly interesting feature in the Church. This font had been removed from its position in the Church, but Sir Alexander Hood had been able to rescue it, and restore it to its proper position. The font was of great antiquity, and very much like those they saw in ancient manuscripts, in which people were baptized by immersion. A similar font to this was to be seen in Canterbury Cathedral. There were three altars in the Church. The farther end of the Church had been completely destroyed ; but Sir Alexander had had it restored. He had found enough traces to enable him to judge of its original disposition, and it was restored accordingly. It was a restoration which very well agreed with the rest of the Church, and very great credit was due for the manner in which it had



been done. A window in the south side of the chancel looked like an original Norman window, but it was difficult in these days to decide always what was original. He learned from Sir Alexander Hood that it was an original window, but it did not always occupy its present position. At the time the restoration was undertaken, there was in that place what was called a churchwarden's window of three lights. That was removed to the south transept, and the present Norman window, which was more in harmony with the other windows of the chancel, was put in. The roof of the Church, an open-timbered one, was, of course, not original. Over one of the tower arches was once a window which looked into the chancel. That, he presumed, was for the use of the ringers, so that they might see when they had to ring the bells. The tower was very substantially built, evidently not for the sake of ornament, but with the view of defence, for, as they read in the old Chronicles, the churches, in the troubles which took place at different times, were used as means of defence against any attack which might be made on the village. That was the reason they were built so strong and with flat towers.

Sir ALEXANDER HOOD added that there were two recumbent monuments. One was the last but one of the Verneys. It was a figure clad in armour, and on a shield near the head were the arms of the family. The other monument was the figure of a man, but he had not been able to ascertain anything connected with it. Whether it was the figure of a layman, a soldier, or a priest, he could not say. He might mention one circumstance which might be new to those present. The Sacrament in the Church in the time of Henry VII and Henry VIII was suspended by a cord in the choir; for he found in the churchwardens' accounts an entry—"For a cord for hanging the sacrament, 2d." He found a considerable portion of the revenue of the Church arose from selling ale at Pentecost. He had found a bill for fifty bushels of barley, 16s. 8d., and for twenty bushels of oats, 2s. 6d. The Church ale was so popular in the parish that it sold for 5d. a quart, so that there was a good margin of



profit. The ale in the 8th year of Henry VIII, he found by the accounts, was sold for £6 13s. 4d., and in the 17th of Henry VIII for £7 1s. 8d.

Bishop CLIFFORD said there was another interesting matter to which Sir Alexander Hood had directed his attention. It was a stone scooped out and looking very much like a holy water stoup, but after examining it, he had come to the conclusion that it was a box, used probably for receiving alms. He was strengthened in this view by the marks on the stone work which corresponded with the iron fastenings.

Mr. REYNOLDS, of Bristol, drew attention to the extreme beauty of the mouldings of the chancel arch columns. He said those facing the nave were decidedly of a classical tendency, and were very rare in this country. Instances of them were to be found in Canterbury Cathedral, the work of William of Sens. The present ones must have been the work of a foreign carver or architect, and were no doubt copied from Roman mouldings. The transept mouldings were essentially English, and were much the same as mouldings which he had seen at Iffley.

### *Stoke Courcy Castle,*

the next object visited, was the principal fortress of the powerful house of Courcy in the 12th century. It passed to Faukes de Breauté by his marriage with the heiress of that family, and was dismantled when the Justiciar Hubert de Burgh at last found an opportunity of overthrowing the Norman adventurer, who strove to become above the law. The Castle in the next reign became the head of the barony of Fitz-Pain. From this family it came by marriage into the possession of the house of Percy. It was taken and burned by William, Lord Bonville, brother-in-law of the Earl of Warwick, soon after the first battle of St. Albans, and has ever since lain in ruins. Traces of the bridge, remains of two towers, some walls, and the sally port may still be seen. It is to be regretted that a house is being built exactly between the two towers. After examining the ruins, the party

were kindly entertained at luncheon by Sir Alexander Hood at Fairfield House. When luncheon was over, the drive was continued to

### *Dodington Manor House,*

a fine specimen of domestic architecture of the 16th century. The house is in perfect preservation, and affords a good example of the Elizabethan style of building. The date, 1581, appears outside, and in the great hall over the chimney-piece. It is worthy of remark that in the hall the timber is rough-hewn and wavy.

The PRESIDENT pointed out the disposition of the principal rooms, which was as usual in great houses of that period. A narrow passage under the minstrels gallery had upon one side the hall, and on the other the kitchen, buttery, and other offices. Where the chimney was, there used to be the raised part of the floor for the "high table," at which the master of the house and his family dined, while the servants and others of a low degree were seated below. On the right of this dais was a door leading to the withdrawing room, where was a fine cornice; near this was the oriel or ladies' room.

The Church is modern and commonplace. It has one or two bits of old stained glass. From Dodington the party drove to the little inn called the Castle of Comfort, and thence ascended the hill to

### *Danesborough Camp;*

the dampness of the atmosphere spoilt the view.

The PRESIDENT observed that the camp was circular, and surrounded with a double fortification. In old books and deeds it was called Dawesborough. It was, he thought, so called from the beacons or *dawns* which were lighted to give notice of the coming of an enemy. These beacons were called dauntrees, and this he believed to be the derivation of the name Dundry.

Sir A. HOOD said that he intended to have the camp cleared, so that it might be seen better; at present it was much overgrown.

The party then drove back to Bridgwater, and the business

of the Meeting ended. The Local Museum remained open for another day, under the care of Mr. Bidgood.

The warm thanks of the Society are due to the Local Committee and the town of Bridgwater for the kindness and liberality displayed in all the arrangements which were made. It would be useless to attempt to name all those gentlemen who, in various ways, promoted the pleasure and the interest of the visitors. It will be sufficient to say that, after the Local Committee had paid all the expenses which the officers of the Society could allow them to undertake, they handed over to the Castle Fund a balance of twenty guineas from money subscribed for the purposes of the Meeting. The Society has never experienced a more kindly or more generous reception than that accorded to it at Bridgwater.

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## The Local Museum

was arranged in the gallery of the Town Hall. The objects of interest were collected for the most part by the energy of the Rev. J. E. Odgers, and Messrs. A. G. Barham and W. L. Winterbotham, and were arranged by Mr. W. Bidgood, the Assistant Secretary and Curator of the Society. The valuable collection of borough documents was exhibited in a series of glass cases. These documents have been made the subject of a special Report by Mr. H. J. Riley. In this he states that, he found about a thousand of them, of which the larger number referred to the transfer of land and houses at different dates, ranging between the reigns of Henry III and Henry VII. Among the most interesting and valuable of the documents exhibited may be enumerated the following:—Charters of Edward II and Edward III, Henry VII and Henry VIII, and of Queens Mary and Elizabeth—the two last mentioned not being

named in the Commissioners' report: Accounts of the bailiffs and stewards of the Commonalty of Bridgwater, in the reigns of Richard II and Henry VI: some interesting documents, beautifully written, by which the "Friars Minors" in Bridgwater, admitted persons to participate in the benefits of the brotherhood, the Conventual seal being affixed, and in good preservation: a deed of Cicely, Duchess of York, Widow of Richard, Duke of York, and mother of King Edward IV, who had granted to her "the lordship of the burgh of Bridgwater": a communication made to the Mayor and burgesses of Bridgwater, by the Mayor of Youghal, deserving especial notice as a piece of "Irish English" at so distant a date as A.D. 1475, the letter complains of outrages alleged to have been committed by Bridgwater seamen upon Youghal sailors at sea, and requests that the Mayor and Corporation of Bridgwater would endeavour to induce these men to keep the peace, the seal of the Corporation is affixed, and is in very fair condition, representing a galley: a conveyance to John Mogge, of a tenement in Bridgwater, in the street called "Ordloue Stret," and extending to the street called "Pynlestret," near the street leading to the North Gate; 26th Richard III—the two seals are perfect. The two streets now form the one street known as the "Penel Olive Street." Mr. Riley found that among the volumes of accounts of the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries were those of the water-bailiffs of the town in 1567, wrapped in a large folio parchment sheet of manuscript of Pliny's *Natural History*, of the 14th century; also a large folio sheet of manuscript, apparently a calendar or summary of its contents, and these manuscripts were so beautifully written that Mr. Riley recommended that they should be taken off and bound together in one volume. This book has been placed among the muniments, and was exhibited with other specimens of ancient writings, &c., most of them being parts of mass books or church calendars. A charter of Inspeximus and Confirmation of Henry VII under the Great Seal, recites a charter of the 8th of Edward IV.,

wherein it is stated that owing to its then state of decay, certain liberties are granted to the town of Bridgwater, with leave to elect a steward or recorder. Among the most remarkable of the miscellaneous objects exhibited were—a fine collection of Greek, Roman, and early English coins; a variety of seals, belonging to civil and ecclesiastical bodies; an ancient altar-cloth, belonging to Wembdon Church, and a medal of Urban VI, found there. These were shown by Mr. H. C. WHITE, of Wembdon. A steel crossbow and sword, picked up on Sedgemoor—Dr. FARMER. Bronzes found in ground belonging to the Union Workhouse at Taunton. These are the property of the Society, and were exhibited by the Curator. Collections of coins, eggs, and butterflies—Mr. W. STOATE.

On the entrance side of the Hall, Mr. H. C. White exhibited a magnificent series of engravings, comprising many examples of Albert Durer, Marc Antonio Raimondi, Hogarth, Ostade, Boydel, Strange, Bartolozzi, Sharp, and Morghen.

The splendid collection of Engravings now being exhibited in the Castle Hall at Taunton, has, by the exertions of some of our Committee, and especially of the Rev. I. S. Gale and Messrs. W. E. Surtees and A. Malet, and by the kindness of the owners, given the public an opportunity of examining an unrivalled series of specimens, illustrating the growth and progress of the art of engraving in its various branches. The Catalogue of this Exhibition, prepared by the Rev. I. S. Gale, with the assistance of Mr. Bidgood, and beginning with an interesting Introduction by Mr. Surtees, is in itself a valuable work of reference.

Mr. White has kindly sent a few notes illustrating the works which he exhibited at Bridgwater.

### *Mr. White's Specimens of Engraving.*

The collecting of old engravings has been considered an elegant amusement; to me it has been a labour of love and recreation. Since the introduction of photography, the engraver's art has



been much neglected, and we look in vain for works that match those beautiful old line-engravings of R. Morghen, Sir R. Strange, Wille, Woollett, and Sharpe ; there is, however, a movement afloat to recover what has been lost in the art of etching, and we have some fine productions by Hammerton, Bodmin, Rajon, and others, and, we may hope that, the recent exhibition in London of the works of Rembrandt may stimulate the taste for these beautiful works.

It seems strange that *Rembrandt*, by himself, should be at this time so much sought after and extolled, for the style of his work is of a very peculiar character ; his etchings are like his paintings, dark and heavy ; in fact, he not only works for the same effects with the graver as with the brush, but he even carries this so far that he seems at times to try to make the graver convey those colours themselves which can only be given by the brush.

Now it has been said, with much truth, that “ there are no Masters whose works, in the gross, deserve notice ; ” and again, that “ no man is equal to himself in all his compositions.” It appears, therefore, to me that an exhibition, not of all the works of one man, but of examples—good examples ; if possible, the master-pieces of each eminent engraver—from the time of Albert Durer to Bartolozzi—would be *highly* instructive and interesting. It is on this principle that I have exhibited specimens from my collection of engravings, and I hope they may be of some interest to the learned Members of this Society. Following out my plan, I venture to offer you a few remarks on the pictures themselves, and on the artists who have executed them ; so that, in however small a way, I may show how the art has flourished, and through what phases and hands it has passed.

*Albert Durer* was born at Nuremberg the 20th May, 1441, and although not the inventor, was one of the first improvers of the art of engraving, indeed two inventions are attributed to him, that of printing woodcuts in two colours, and that of etching. He was a man whose universality of talent extended

to every department of art, and carried all to a degree of perfection previously unknown in Germany; he was a man of letters and a philosopher, a man of business also, and for many years the leading magistrate of Nuremburg. His prints, considered as the first efforts of a new art, have great merit; indeed, it is astonishing to see a new art in its first essay carried to such a height. In some of those prints which he executed on copper the engraving is elegant to a great degree. The examples Nos. 1 and 2 of "St. Jerome in his Study," and "Holy Women at the Foot of the Cross," are marvellous productions for the time—1508 and 1514; the labour he has bestowed upon them has its full effect, and every part is well executed. His wood engravings, too, are wonderful works, though quaint; Nos. 4 and 5, taken from an old German Bible, are interesting. It is related that some were copied by Marc Antonio, who placed Durer's monogram on his works. Durer was much incensed at the forgery, and cited Antonio before the authorities, who restrained him from this practice for the future. "The Life of the Virgin," Nos. 6, 7, 8, are examples of these forgeries. There is also a fine, and rare, engraving by M. Antonio, No. 9, "The Descent from the Cross." The immediate successors and imitators of Albert Durer were Lucas Van Leyden (this extraordinary artist is regarded as the Patriarch of the Dutch School), and Aldegrever, b. 1502. "The labours of Hercules" are examples much in Durer's style.

*Henry Goltzius*, b. 1558, flourished a little after the death of these masters, and carried engraving to a great height. He was a native of Germany, where he learned his art, but travelling afterwards into Italy he there improved his ideas. No. 14, "The Boy and Dog" (the boy is supposed to be the portrait of Theodore Frisius, a painter of Venice, to whom he dedicated the print,) is considered one of his finest plates.

*John Muller*, b. 1570, engraved very much in the style of Goltzius, and yet in a still bolder and firmer manner. The "Adoration of the Magi," No. 15, is considered a master-piece by him.

*Count Goudt*, b. 1585, was a young nobleman who contracted a friendship in Rome with Adam Elshamer, from whose designs he engraved a few prints ; he never practised engraving as a profession. This would call for indulgence if his prints had less merit ; but in their way they are beautiful, though on the whole formal and unpleasant ; they are highly finished, but void of all freedom. Moon-lights and torch-lights are the subjects he chiefly chooses, and his excellence lies in preserving the effects of the different lights. “Ceres drinking from a Pitcher” (called “The Sorcery”), is an example. There is a powerful effect of light in this engraving.

*Salvator Rosa*—b. at Naples, 1615 ; d. 1673, at Rome ; (No. 18)—was bred a painter, and perfectly understood his art. We are told he spent the early part of his life with a troop of banditti, and that the rocky and desolate scenes, in which he was accustomed to take refuge, furnished him with those romantic ideas of landscape of which he is so exceedingly fond, and in the description of which he so greatly excels. His “Robbers,” as his detached figures are commonly called, are supposed to have been taken from the life.

*Rembrandt's* excellence as a painter lay in colouring, which he possessed in such perfection that it almost screens every fault in his pictures. His execution is peculiar to himself ; it is rough or neat, as he meant a sketch or a finished piece, but always free and masterly. It produces its effects by strokes intersected in every direction, and comes nearer the idea of painting than the execution of any other master ; he is a strong contrast to *Salvator*. The one drew all his ideas from Nature, as she appears with the utmost grace and elegance ; the other caught her in her meanest images, and transferred those images into the highest characters—hence, *Salvator* exalts banditti into heroes, *Rembrandt* degrades patriarchs into beggars. Nos. 19 to 25 are examples. “Count Guilderstein and his Son,” and “The Three Trees,” 1642, are considered very fine.

*Castiglione*—b. 1616, d. 1670—was an Italian painter of some

eminence ; he drew human figures with grace and correctness, yet he generally chose such subjects as would admit the introduction of animal life, and this often makes the more excellent part of his piece. There is a simplicity in the designs of this master which is very beautiful. In composition he excels greatly. He has left us several of his own etchings which are very valuable. In No. 26, "The Entering of Noah into the Ark," the composition, the distribution of light, the spirit and expression with which the animals are touched, and the freedom of the execution, are all admirable. There are also some heads—Nos. 27, 28, 29—which are very beautiful.

*Mellan*—b. 1601, d. 1688—was a whimsical engraver. He shadowed entirely with parallel lines, which he winds round the muscles of his figures, and he folds his draperies with great variety and beauty. No. 30 and 31 are examples of this peculiar style of work.

*Ostade's*—b. 1610, d. 1685—etchings are admirable representations of low life ; Nos. 32 and 33. They abound in humour and expression.

*Paul Potter*—b. 1625—etched several plates of cows and horses in a masterly manner. Two or three examples are exhibited.

*Waterloo*—b. 1618—is a name beyond any other in landscape, his subjects are perfectly rural ; simplicity is their characteristic. He selects a few striking objects—a coppice, a corner of a forest, a winding road, or a straggling village, is generally the extent of his view. His composition is good, his light well distributed. His chief merit lies in execution, in which he is a consummate master. Every object that he touches has the character of nature, but he particularly excels in the foliage of trees.

*Hollar's*—b. 1607, d. 1677—views of particular places are copied with great truth. His cathedrals, and a copy of Durer's head of Christ, are finely executed.

*S. Gribelin*—b. 1661, came to England 1680—was a careful and laborious engraver. The Banqueting-House ceiling at



Whitehall, painted by Rubens, and "The Apotheosis of James 1st," are fine examples.

We now come to our celebrated countryman, *Hogarth*—b. 1698, d. 1764. The works of this master abound in true humour and satire, which are generally well directed. They are admirable moral lessons, and a fund of entertainment fitted to every taste, a circumstance which shows them to be just copies of nature. We may consider them, too, as valuable repositories of the manners, customs, and dresses of the age.

Some years ago, at the annual banquet of the Royal Academy, Lord Beaconsfield (then Mr. Disraeli) thus eloquently sketched the position of the Art of Painting in England at the beginning of the last century :—"Much less than two centuries ago," said the gifted orator, "when England was one of the greatest powers of Europe, when it produced statesmen and orators like Somers and Bolingbroke, when Marlborough conquered in every field, when we had a poet singing to the nation who in his style has never been rivalled ; when the great masters of composition and prose were Addison and Dryden, England, if it wished to transmit a portrait of any of these heroes, was obliged to import a Frenchman or a Fleming." Had the eloquence of the speaker, in relation to this part of his discourse, extended beyond the foregoing limit, had Mr. Disraeli dwelt further upon the decadence of art at this particular period of our history, he might with truth have added, that toward the close of the eighteenth century England had drifted into the unenviable position of being utterly unrepresented, in any national sense, in the art schools of Europe. Not the smallest encouragement was shown to the rising community of English artists of that time, who laboured in the midst of influences so discouraging as to support the belief that, had they been men less endowed than they were with the courage and qualities essential to success, they must have succumbed beneath the weight of contempt into which their art had fallen. Painters by possession of a distinctive genius, rather than from any special influence of



art education—persevering, studious, and energetic—strove manfully to one great end—the securing for painting that prominence and distinction among the arts which, happily, it now commands, not only in England itself, but throughout the world of civilization. If we search the records of the reign of George the Second, trusting to find there some gleam of encouragement afforded to artists, or example of patronage extended to their order, we encounter nothing but disappointment. The Monarch, “a dull little man,” we have been told, “of low tastes,” himself took no interest in art and the Court, and the wealthy of the nation generally followed the King’s example. “Pray who is this Hogarth?” inquired the King of his Secretary, when that functionary was seeking, on behalf of the artist, permission for the dedication to the sovereign of the celebrated engraving of the “March of the Guards to Finchley,” “Pray who is this Hogarth?” “A painter, my liege,” replied the Secretary. “*I hate painting and poetry both!*” promptly rejoined the sovereign; “neither the one nor the other ever did any good. Does the fellow intend to laugh at my Guards?” On its being explained to the King that there was certainly something savouring of burlesque discernable in the picture—“What,” exclaimed he, “a Painter burlesque a Soldier! The fellow deserves to be picketed for his insolence. Take the trumpery out of my sight.” This amusing, if not altogether well chosen or edifying anecdote, serves to illustrate the position of art in this country at the time when George the Second occupied the throne.

*Hogarth* was the creator of the present British school of painting. Art was at its lowest ebb in this country, when he led the way back to Nature—a marvellous inventor, a consummate physiognomist, and an admirable artist throughout. He overthrew long-time tradition, and, refusing to be bound by the conventionalism which had already enwrapped and threatened to smother the art-genius of England, boldly struck out a path for himself. In that path he laboured unceasingly, producing

from time to time splendid evidence of his masterly skill and inventive power, and discovering the way to that fertile ground, in which the most vital and vigorous spirit of English art has since manifested itself, that of domestic incident and dramatic story.

The author of the "Analysis of Beauty" was much ridiculed in his day. Nos. 65 to 73 are scarce *Anti-Hogarth* etchings, in which among other things he is represented as demonstrating that crookedness is the line of beauty.

*John Boydell*, b. 1719, d. 1804.—This excellent citizen, by prudent conduct and unceasing application, accumulated property which enabled him to form and to execute plans for the advancement of art and the encouragement of artists before unknown in this and in almost every other country. At the time he commenced publishing prints, the art of engraving was in a very low state in England. Little was sought for but French prints, and large remittances went annually to purchase them. Mr. Boydell, moved less by hope of gain than by patriotic feelings, resolved, if possible, to turn the tide in favour of his native country. He knew this could only be done by improving the practice of our professors in that department. For this purpose he used all the money he acquired in employing our most ingenious engravers to execute prints from pictures painted by eminent masters, by which means he called forth all their powers. English prints became popular not only in England, but throughout the Continent; and while the works of Woollett, Sharp, and others, were seen as the favourite ornaments of houses in Britain, they were sought for in France with almost equal avidity. In 1745 or 1746 he published six small landscapes designed and engraved by himself. He proceeded with unabating industry to engrave and publish till he had completed 152 prints, which he collected in one volume and published at five guineas, with the profits of this volume he was enabled to pay the best artists of his time, and thus presented the world with English engravings from the works of

the greatest masters. He used to observe that the book we have alluded to was the first that ever made a Lord Mayor of London.

That the art of engraving in Mezzotint should have attained its highest state of perfection whilst Sir Joshua Reynolds lived and painted, was a most happy coincidence ; it would seem as if the artist-engravers, contemporaries of Sir Joshua Reynolds, stimulated by the extraordinary power of the painter's brush, had been enabled to surpass their art for the purpose of faithfully transcribing, in all their entirety, the pictures they imitated ; as if the very genius of Reynolds had guided their hands, for the works of art of these engravers are as much masterpieces in their way as those of the great artist himself, and have contributed in no small degree to spread and perpetuate his reputation. Thus they delineated with wonderful truth and reality not only the expression and the grace, but even the characteristic peculiarities of the master's touch, rendering their works eminently pleasing and attractive ; the effect more resembles painting in Mezzotint than engraving, for with what subtle power are reproduced the lines, the forms, and the texture of each part of the picture, and yet how bold and forcible is the whole ! Such works as these delight us for their extreme beauty, and astonish us by their wonderful exactness to the original paintings, and we may well understand Sir J. Reynolds exclaiming, when he saw a fine engraving after one of his pictures by J. Mc. Ardell, "By this man I shall be immortalized." To possess such works, is to live with Reynolds, and in his times ; to study them is to nourish and improve the taste, while at the same time we are led to regret that this art, as then practised, should have passed away with the men who brought it to such perfection. There is a great and increasing interest in these fine Mezzotint engravings, and the extreme beauty and rarity of many of the plates is shown by a proof of the engraving of the Duchess of Rutland and one of Lady Bamfylde and Mrs. Pelham selling some time since for the large sum of 480 guineas.

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# The Library.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

*The Archæological Journal.*

*Journal of the British Archæological Association.*

*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries.*

*Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.*

*Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society,* parts 4, 13, 14.

*Proceedings and Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy.*

*Proceedings of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool,* vol. xxxi.

*Proceedings of the Geologists' Association.*

*Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society.*

*Report and Transactions of the Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society,* vol. vi, part 1.

*Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society* for 1876.

*Archæologia Cantiana,* vol. xi.

*Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine.*

*Associated Architectural Societies' Reports and Papers.*

*Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.*

*Sussex Archæological Collections.*

*Report of the Smithsonian Institution,* 1876.

*Bulletin of the Essex Institute,* Salem, Mass., vol. viii.

*Montgomeryshire Collections.*

*Thirlwall's History of Greece,* 8 vols., by the Rev. G. D. W. OMMANNEY.

*History of the Town and Borough of Leominster*, by Mr. SURTEES.

*Acts of Parliament Relating to Bristol*, 1756 ; *Some Thoughts concerning Education*, by John Locke, 1745 ; *Two Treatises of Government*, by John Locke, 1698 ; by the Rev. I. S. GALE.

*Visitors' Handbook to Weston-super-Mare* ; by Mr. ROBBINS.

*Remarks on Shakespeare, his Birthplace, &c ; The British Oppidum at Cobham, Kent ; On Romano-British Pottery at Gravesend ; On Celtic Remains found at Hoo, in Kent* ; by Mr. C. ROACH SMITH.

*On the Stature and Bulk of Man in the British Islands* ; by Dr. BEDDOE.

Calamy's *Life of Baxter*, vol. ii ; *Virgil*, 1537 ; Walpole's *Historic Doubts on the Life and Reign of King Richard III* ; by Mr. SURTEES.

Boyne's *Tokens Issued in the 17th Century* (purchased).

*Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*, abridged, vols. i to vii, and vols. xxxvii to xlv ; *History of the Royal Society ; Philosophical Works of the Hon. Robt. Boyle*, vol. ii ; print of *St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton* ; by Mr. A. MAYNARD.

*Palæontographical Society's Journal* (purchased).

*The Church Rambler*, part 4 (purchased).

*Epicteti Enchiridion, made English in a Poetical Paraphrase*, by Ellis Walker, 1692 ; *The History of Britain*, by John Milton, 1695 ; by Mr. WHITE.

Akerman's *Descriptive Catalogue of Roman Coins*, 2 vols. (purchased).

*Fifth Report on Historical Manuscripts*, part 1 (purchased).

*Visitation of Somersetshire*, 1623 ; *Visitation of Warwickshire*, 1619, Harleian Soc. (purchased).

*Grammar of the Dialect of West Somerset* ; by Mr. F. T. ELWORTHY.

*Catalogue of the Mayer Collection*, part 1 ; *The Mayer Collection Considered as an Educational Possession* ; by Mr. JOSEPH MAYER.



*Bewick Correspondence* ; *History of the Deanery of Trigg Minor, Cornwall*, parts 12, 13 ; *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh*, 13 parts ; *Makerstoun Meterological Observations*, Appendix ; *Reynolds's Counterblast* ; *English Spelled as Pronounced*, &c. ; by Sir W. C. TREVELYAN, Bart.

Bryan's *Dictionary of Painters and Engravers* (purchased).

*History of South Mimms, Middlesex.*

*The Somersetshire Dialect—its Pronunciation* ; *The Song of Solomon in the Somerset Dialect* ; by Prince LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

*Genera Plantarum*, Linné, 1767 ; *Nomenclator Plantarum Helvetiæ*, Haller, 1769 ; *Classis Cruciformium Emendata*, Cranz, 1769 ; *Spicilegium Goetting*, Weber, 1778 ; *Entomologia Carniolica*, Scopoli, 1763 ; *Systema Naturæ*, Linné, 1767-1770 ; by Mr. W. P. PINCHARD.

*Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. vii, part 1, by Mr. C. ROACH SMITH.

## The Museum.

### ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

Two Drawings of the East Gate of Taunton Castle, 1796 ; by Dr. FALCONER.

Photograph of Tiles, found at Muchelney ; by Mr. SKELMERDINE.

Articles of Indian Silk, from Cawnpore ; by Mr. PERCY EASTON.

Thirty-three Inferior Oolite Fossils, from Bradford Abbas ; by Mr. DARELL STEPHENS.

Encaustic Tile, found at Athelney ; Incense Cup, found in a barrow near the Castle of Comfort, East Harptree, 1863 ; by Mr. H. C. WHITE.

Portion of a Canoe, found at the bottom of Lake Kinnord, near Ballater, Scotland, 1875 ; by Mr. W. MAYNARD.

Articles made from the Palmyra tree ; Casts of the Heads of French Kings ; by Mr. W. STOATE.

Pottery from Salmon Lane Yard, Bridgwater ; by Messrs. BROWN.

A fine collection of Devonian Fossils, from the Quantock Hills, and other Fossils ; by Mr. J. D. PRING.

Hubble-bubble, from Rangoon ; by Mr. H. H. BASTARD.

Great Northern Diver, killed at Burnham ; by Mr. A. ENNOR.

Indian and Thibetan Coins ; by Rev. I. S. GALE.

Roman Pottery, found at Walrond Park, Isle Abbots ; by Mr. JOSEPH OSTLER.

Norwegian Bottle ; by Mr. B. M. COLLYNS.

Dutch Tiles ; by the Rev. I. S. GALE.

Pale variety of the Common Partridge ; by Mr. J. MARSHALL.

Two pieces of Earthenware ; by Mr. BUTLAND.

Wasps' Nest, from India ; by Major-General LESTER.

Two specimens of the Ermine Weasel, by Mr. A. MALET.

A number of Copper Tokens, by Mr. W. SMITH.

Sixpence, Philip and Mary ; Shilling, George I ; Threepence, George II ; and gold Seven Shilling Piece, 1792 ; by Mr. COPESTAKE.

Pair of old Gilt Spurs ; by Mr. M. JACOBS.

DEPOSITED :

A large collection of Photographs of Architectural Remains in the County ; by Mr. R. GILLO.

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## Conversazione Meetings.

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1878.

March 18th.

*On Early Methods of Counting and Measuring*, by Mr. E. B.  
TYLOR, LL.D., F.R.S.

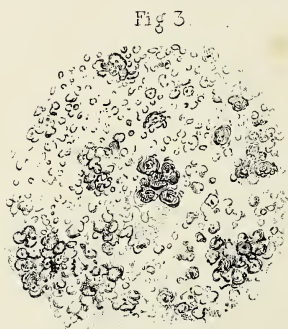
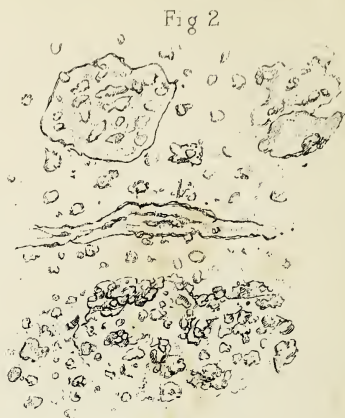
April 1st.

*On Palms*, by General MUNRO, C.B.

April 29th.

*On the Name of Silver Street, with a Notice of Some Traces of the  
Romans in and about Taunton*, by Mr. J. H. PRING, M.D.





JEPPEY & BROS.

Forms of Pellicles obtained in Hay Infusion exposed to the following Gases:—

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1. Carbonic Acid | 3. Atmospheric Air. (Cells with Nuclei)  |
| 2. Oxygen.       | 4. Nitrogen. (many monads moving about.) |
|                  | 5. Hydrogen.                             |



*Proceedings*  
*of the*  
*Somersetshire Archæological and*  
*Natural History Society,*  
1877, *Part II.*

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P A P E R S , E T C .

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On the Influence of Artificially-formed Atmospheres in  
Modifying the Development of the Lower Forms of  
Living Organisms.

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BY JAMES HURLY PRING, M.D.

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THE increasing interest which continues to attach to those researches which are being made into what is now commonly designated "the Evolution of Life," induces me to offer a few observations as a slight contribution to the general fund of information on the subject. My object is to direct attention to the modifying influence exerted by artificially-formed, or factitious atmospheres, on the development of the lower forms of life—a branch of inquiry which, it will at once be perceived, differs in some respects from those more commonly undertaken, the special object of which has been rather to determine whether the lower forms of living organisms do not occasionally spring into existence *de novo* from their elements, or, as it has been termed, "spontaneously"—a doctrine which, previous to the recent admirably conducted experiments of Professor Tyndall, seemed to be gaining such general acceptance as threatened to prove

altogether subversive of the celebrated aphorism, "*omne vivum ex ovo.*"

Having been led many years since to bestow some attention on the subject in question, I commenced what I intended should form the first of a series of experiments in reference to it. The claims, however, of my more strictly professional engagements interfered at that time to prevent me from carrying my intention into effect, and circumstances, which it is unnecessary that I should here detail, occurred subsequently to abate and almost to extinguish the interest I had originally felt in my first design, and it was consequently suffered to fall into abeyance.

In the endeavour of late to resume it, new difficulties have presented themselves, of which the want of the accuracy of vision, so requisite in the prosecution of microscopical researches, is the chief, and must accordingly serve as my apology for making known in its present imperfect form what little I have to communicate on this interesting department of biological inquiry.

It is now so long since as the year 1851, when I was residing at Weston-super-Mare, that, having collected some new-made hay from a hay field in front of my house, I made a decoction of it, boiling it for a considerable time, and then filling five bell-glasses with the decoction, as hot as I could bear my hand in it. This done, I immediately proceeded to fill each bell-glass about three-fourths full of the following gases, viz., oxygen, carbonic acid, hydrogen, nitrogen, and atmospheric air—the latter being intended to serve rather as a standard of comparison. In the course of a few weeks I found the surface of the decoction in each case covered by a pellicle, apparently a low type of vegetable growth. A portion of each of these pellicles I carefully transferred, for examination, to an equal number of separate slips of glass, and on these it was left, and allowed to dry.

Subjected to a high magnifying power, I could clearly perceive that *the appearance of the pellicle varied in each instance with the gas employed.* Being at the time in correspondence with

the late Mr. Quekett upon other subjects, I mentioned the matter incidentally to him, and he expressed a wish that I should forward the glass slips to him, which I did, and he returned them to me with drawings, which he very obligingly had made of them, and stated that the specimens were certainly all plants. These drawings and glass slips are still in my possession, and I have now the pleasure of exhibiting the former, and trust that they will be deemed of sufficient interest and value to merit engraving in illustration of this paper.

The drawings, as will be seen, sufficiently explain themselves, the specimens being magnified in each case 500 diameters, whilst the difference of form observable in each instance is due to no other cause than the variety of gas to which the surface of the same fluid was respectively exposed. (See plate.)

Submitting the specimens some years afterwards to the inspection of Dr. Phipson, of Putney, with whom I happened then to be in correspondence, and who had given considerable attention to these low forms of organised beings, he gave it as his opinion that the different specimens were all the same plant, but in different degrees of development. Being much more conversant than myself with the use of the microscope, and with such researches, I have never ventured to question the correctness of his views on this point; but previously to the opinion thus expressed, I was led, with the magnifying power at my command, to regard the pellicles as differing essentially from each other in each case—that under the carbonic acid appearing to have a higher form of organization than the rest. It would appear that Mr. Quekett must have regarded them also in this light, referring to them, as he did, as being “certainly *all plants*.” But however this may be, the marked difference obtained in this experiment, varying as we have seen with the gas employed, is a fact that must be regarded as important, having more than a mere collateral bearing on questions at present under discussion, and being apparently somewhat in conflict with the conclusions deduced from the admirable experiments recently laid before the

Royal Institution by Professor Tyndall. In the very delicate and patiently conducted researches in question, the learned Professor has demonstrated the extreme difficulty of freeing the fluids to be experimented on from living germs imported into them, either through the air, or from some other source ; and it appears that neither lengthened boiling of the liquid, nor calcining at the same time the superincumbent air, is found sufficient to insure the destruction of the vitality of these minute organic germs, especially at certain stages of their existence, though it is stated that their sterilization may be infallibly effected by short and repeated exposures to a temperature of even less than 212 degs. of Fahrenheit. One great object, indeed, of these experiments of Professor Tyndall seems to have been to prove that the sterilization of the fluids experimented on may certainly be accomplished, first, by taking every precaution to prevent the admission of germs into them ; and secondly, by repeatedly subjecting to the boiling temperature such germs as, notwithstanding the utmost precaution, may have become accidentally admitted. In the case, however, of the experiments to which I have now the honour of directing attention, there was no occasion for calcining or filtrating the superincumbent air, or for removing the apparatus employed from one locality to another, in order to avoid an "infective atmosphere," laden with living germs. Care was taken in each instance to ascertain that pure gas was coming over, before the beak of the retort was introduced beneath the fluid to be experimented on, and thus all access of atmospheric air, in which germs were floating, was more perfectly excluded than could have been effected by removing the infusions which were the subject of the experiment from the germ-laden air of the Royal Institution to the comparatively purer atmosphere of Kew Gardens ; and yet in this case there was in due time a manifest development of organic life, the character of this development varying also in this instance with the particular kind of gas to which the surface of the liquid happened to be exposed. Before quitting this part of the subject, there remains yet to be

noticed another point in which these experiments with the gases present us with a result apparently antagonistic to some of the conclusions of Professor Tyndall. Towards the close of his memoir, a résumé of which occurs in the number of *Nature* for the 14th June, 1877, we learn that he regards the use of the Sprengel air-pump, in conjunction with boiling, as the most certain and efficient means of sterilizing the fluids under experiment, observing in conclusion, that “the inertness of the germs in liquids deprived of air is not due to a mere *suspension* of their powers. They are *killed* by being deprived of oxygen. For when the air which has been removed by the Sprengel pump is, after some time, carefully restored to the infusion, unaccompanied by germs from without, there is no revival of life. By removing the air we stifle the life, which the returning air is incompetent to restore,” (p. 129). If the conclusions thus arrived at are admitted to be correct, how, it may be asked, are they to be reconciled with the free development of germs in those gases—hydrogen, nitrogen, and carbonic acid—which are wholly devoid of oxygen? and how comes it that carbonic acid affords an atmosphere favourable to the development of germs presenting a highly organised structure?

Previously to the recent investigations of Professor Tyndall, I was under the impression that these experiments, where only gases were employed, and in which the possibility of the introduction of germs from without, was thus apparently excluded, tended to favour the view that “the low organisms which form a pellicle on the surface of infusions or other liquids are produced *de novo* in such infusions.” (*Nature*, vol. vi, p. 300.) The precise and very delicate experiments of Prof. Tyndall, however, have now suggested that germs may possibly have been adherent in this instance to the interior surface of the retorts and bell-glasses employed, and may thus, (if not otherwise), have found their way into the fluid forming the subject of experiment, so that these particular experiments must thus be held to lose a portion of the interest and value with which they



seemed formerly invested. The fact, however, of the modifying influence exerted in each separate instance by the special gas employed, still remains; and by those who, like Dr. Bastian and his followers, maintain the view that "all the lower forms of life are being continually produced *de novo*, under the influence of unknown laws of development," (p. 303), it is possible that the fact thus established may be regarded as tending to supply at least one link in the chain of "the unknown laws of development," under the influence of which these lower forms of life originate.

At all events, a field of research would seem to be thus opened, the fuller cultivation of which may possibly exercise important influences on some of those biological questions of the day, which must be regarded as being still *sub judice*. The substances, of which so long a list is now frequently employed in similar investigations, might be tried in a great variety of gases, and these, again, may be mixed in various proportions, whilst the exposure to, or the exclusion from, the powerful influence exercised by light, is a point that may be deserving of further attention. Then again, the subjection, under the foregoing conditions, of the fluid forming the subject of experiment to the action of a long continued low galvanic current, would promise to lend further interest and variety to the group of experiments thus indicated, since it was in the course of experiments in which the electric agency was thus employed by the late Mr. Crosse, of Broomfield, near Taunton, that the *Acarus electricus*, or *Crossii*, an insect which may perhaps be regarded as furnishing the most decided and evident instance of spontaneous generation hitherto recorded, is said to have been formed. And here, in furtherance of this part of the subject, I would venture also to suggest that, when it is considered how the spread of zymotic disease is often associated with the diffusion of various mephitic gases, the modification effected in the development of germs by their contact with particular gases, and possibly their greater aptitude for development in some gases rather than in others, are

points, the further investigation of which may prove interesting to those engaged in the important study of the laws of infection.

It may perhaps be expected that some fuller and more precise observations should here be offered as regards the bearing which these experiments are calculated to exercise on the much debated question of spontaneous generation. Beyond the incidental comments, however, already made, I purposely refrain from indulging in any remarks on this particular point, preferring to content myself with placing a statement of the bare facts on record, and merely observing that they certainly tend to show that life may be developed and maintained under conditions which have usually been regarded as adverse to, if not actually incompatible with, its existence ; and that, assuming germs to have been present, their modification by contact with specially prepared atmospheres, as here shown, has yet to be accounted for.

In conclusion, I would remark that, as from what has been already advanced it may be inferred that these observations rest only on a single group of experiments, made long ago, it is well to state that the results then obtained were very clear and decisive, as may at once be seen by reference to the drawings ; and it is right here to add that these first experiments have been fully and carefully verified by comparatively recent repetitions.

They have been applied also in a slight measure to turnip and other infusions, in which, so far as they were carried, similar differences were presented with different gases. For the reasons already assigned, however, the observations have been chiefly confined to effects obtained with the infusion of hay, with which the results are sufficiently distinct and constant to establish the fact here insisted on, that *the development of the lower organisms from solutions of organic matter is sensibly and specially modified by the particular kind of superincumbent gas or atmosphere to which the surface of such solution is exposed.*

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# On an Interment found on Cadbury Hill, near Tatton, and on Roman Remains found in the Vale of Edwington.

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BY THE REV. PREB. SCARTH, M.A.,

*Rector of Wrington.*

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THE summit of Cadbury Hill is encircled by a slight fortification, and the area has the traces of ancient dwellings. Rutter (*Hist. of Som.*, p. 73) says, "The fortification is very rude and irregular, consisting in many places of little more than the steepness of the hill, assisted by a slight ditch, wrought out of the rocky soil. Toward the eastern side is an oblique entrance, and further on toward the south is another straight. The south side is precipitous and rocky, and near this side, toward the west, is a circular depression in the earth, having the appearance of a well, filled up." This is a very fair description of the camp.

In the month of June or July 1877, an interment was found on the north side of the summit of the hill, which is the property of the Rev. J. W. Hardman, L.L.D., of Cadbury House. Some labourers having been sent up to procure earth, came upon a skeleton, enclosed in a grave, or rudely-constructed cist, composed of rough stones of white lias. The skeleton was perfect; and the teeth in the jaw were those of a person of mature age, all in excellent preservation. With the body were found many fragments of broken pottery, some coarse black, two or three pieces of red Samian with patterns on them, and one piece of Caistor, or Durobrivian ware, also fragments of Roman roofing tiles, one nearly perfect with the nail remaining in the hole for fixing, and a whorle of Kimmerage coal,

partly broken, but containing the circular hole for the thread or flax to pass through. A similar whorle of the same material has been found at Charterhouse-on-Mendip, among the Roman relics. On visiting the spot next day, there was found in the loose soil a coin of Constantine the Great (bronze), but much corroded. The head of the emperor is, however, plain, and the legend, CONSTANTINVS IVN(?) NOB. CAES. (?) On the reverse are two Roman soldiers completely armed, and between them two military standards, the top of each of which appears to have the "Labarum." The coin is similar to those described by Mr. King in his *Early Christian Numismatics*, p. 22. The legend on the reverse is very difficult to read, but it seems to be GLORIA EXERCITVS, and the letters AQB or AQS in the exergue. The coin appears to have been struck after Constantine became a Christian, *i.e.* after A.D. 323.

The discovery of this interment may lead to further researches. It is not the first discovery of Roman interments, which have been found at the base of the hill, at Yatton (see *Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1851, vol. i, part ii, p. 59). A large urn holding nearly two gallons of Roman coins was found in a Roman cemetery at Yatton, at the foot of the encampment known as Cadbury Hill, and then the garden of the Rev. Richard Symes. The bodies were all deposited about 18 inches below the surface, and the urn of black ware was nearly full of second and third brass coins of the later period of the Roman Empire. Mr. Stradling, in his paper, says, "I one morning collected 40 from the village shops, where they had been for some weeks passing for farthings." One of these was of Orbiana Augusta, wife of Alexander Severus.

On the hill to the east of Cadbury, above the present residence of Capt. William Long, Roman remains have also been found, consisting of much pottery and bronze implements, and the foundations of a dwelling; a boundary of loose stones has been traced in the wood, enclosing an area of several acres. Further up the Vale of Wrington, and following the same road to Redhill,

about three miles, in the deep hollow and a quarter of a mile beyond the church is Lye Hole, where there is a stream of water which runs into the Yeo River not far from Havyatt Green. About two fields from the farm house of Mr. Body, at this spot, and ascending up the hill to the south, there was found last summer the site of a Roman villa.

Owing to the dryness of the month of July 1876 the whole plan of the villa became evident in the turf, and led to the ground being opened, when the remains of a hypocaust were found. Many of the pilæ were exposed, and were found to be constructed of roofing tiles from a still older building. The floor of the room laid open had however been destroyed, and nothing was found but remains of burnt matter, pottery of different kinds, and many roofing tiles. As it was evident that at some remote time the floors of the rooms had entirely perished, and nothing of importance was likely to be discovered, further examination was abandoned.

In the early part of this century the present turnpike-road between Bristol and Bridgwater, which passes through the parish of Wrington, was constructed. The direction of the old line of road was followed, but the ancient track, having become in places worn into deep channels, and being some times carried over very steep ascents, was diverted, so that the old and new roads run in many places side by side. It is impossible to say when the old road was first constructed, but it was evidently a very ancient line of traffic, and the Roman villa at Lye Hole is not more than a mile distant from the course of this road. In making the same line of road near Havyatt Green, about mid-way between the descent from Broadfield Down at Redhill and the ascent of the Mendip through the pass at Dolebury, the labourers "broke into foundations which were evidently Roman, and found a quantity of ancient pottery, Samian ware, and fragments of urns and sepulchral exuviae." This is recorded in a letter from the Rev. J. Douglas, author of the *Nenia Britannicæ*, to the Rev. J. Skinner, rector of Camerton, and dated



18th June, 1817. The M.S. is in the library of the Bath Literary and Scientific Institution.

Thus the Vale of Wrington gives everywhere indications of Roman occupation, and that occupation probably extends from the days of Claudius Cæsar,<sup>1</sup> by whom the mines of lead in Mendip appear to have been put under tribute, as a pig of Roman lead of the date of Claudius was found at Wookey, and another, bearing the stamp of Britannicus, the adopted son of Claudius, has been found at Blagdon, and others bearing the stamp of Vespasian have lately been found at Charterhouse-on-Mendip, where Roman coins of an early period have also been found—as for instance consular coins of the date of M. Antonius the Triumvir.

There is little doubt that, if care be taken to note the evidences of Roman occupation in the Mendip district, much may be found of real historical interest.

(1). The lead found at Wookey is recorded in Leland's *Collectanea*, 1st part, p. 45, and bears the stamp,

TI . CLAVD . CÆS . AVG  
P . M . TR . P . VIII . IMP . XVI .  
DE BRITAN .

See also Musgrave, *Bel. Brit.*, vol. i, p. 181 (pub. 1719, Exeter and London), who thus describes it :—"Tropæum ex oblonga plumbi tabula, in qua inscriptio hæcce legebatur, prope Ogonen, uti refert Doctiss. Lelandus, circa initium seculi supra decimum quinti, aratro erutum est, et ad ædes Thos. Houardi Norf. Ducis, Londinium, eodem referentem translatum." The "Tropæum" was only a thin lamina of lead, bearing the imperial stamp, similar to those that have been recently found at Charterhouse-on-Mendip, which have been described in the *Proc. of the Soc. of Antiq.*, and in the journal of the Archæol. Assoc. (See *Proc.*, 2nd series, vi, 187, and March 8th, 1877.)

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## The Siege of Bridgwater, July, 1645.

BY EMANUEL GREEN.

ON the 3rd July, 1645, Sir Thomas Fairfax, General and Commander-in-Chief for the Parliament, entered Somerset with his forces, and quartered in the neighbourhood of Crewkerne. On the 10th he fought and utterly defeated, at Langport, the King's army under Lord Goring. Following up in sharp pursuit the routed Royalists, he made his head-quarters that night at Audry, within a mile of Chedzoy, a house belonging to the Dean of Wells; his Lieutenant-General, Cromwell, General of the Horse, quartering at Aller, where he was joined by Major-General Massey. These events and passages being known in London, public attention was earnestly directed to the next evident movement, an attack on Bridgwater; as, if that strong garrison fell, the King's chance of any success in the West would be very small.

To settle and order the troops, after their work of the day before, the army was reviewed on the 11th, on Weston Moor, near Pensey Pound, about two miles from Bridgwater; after which, being intolerably weary, the men were allowed to rest in their quarters on the 12th and 13th, to refresh themselves. They had also to gather in provisions as well as they could without money, a daily-expected supply of that useful article not having arrived.

On the 12th the fortifications and defences were "viewed," the two generals being in the field all day, making their plans. Whilst so doing, and getting too close to the works, Cromwell was near being shot, an officer to whom he was speaking being killed by his side.<sup>1</sup> The bullet was picked up, still warm. It had been fired by Mrs. Windham, the Governor's wife, as her

(1). A Diary, &c., No. 61.

token, as she called it ; and she afterwards sent a trumpet to tell the General that if he were a courtier he would return the compliment, and do as much for her.

The examination of the works being completed, Cromwell made a speech to his men, and pointed out how the passage by water could be blocked up. Fifteen hundred horse and dragoons were then sent to the western side for that purpose.<sup>2</sup> Three thousand others were sent to the northern side, whilst Major-General Massey, having his head-quarters at Ham House, camped on the south-west and Petherton side, and placed batteries on the adjacent rising-ground, with which to annoy the town. It was thus so completely surrounded that no relief could be got in.

Next, the country round was cleared of the foe. One party was sent to watch the borders of Devon, whither Lord Goring had fled, and another to block up Bruntonrust ; whilst Colonel Holborn went to Sydenham House, and had it surrendered to him on summons, with a hundred prisoners.<sup>3</sup> Burrough was besieged by Colonel Okey, with his dragoons, and soon surrendered, on conditions.<sup>4</sup>

The men being refreshed, the General became impatient to be in action. On Monday, the 14th, accompanied by Lieutenant-General Cromwell, he again went round the works. Whilst crossing the river at Dunweir an accident nearly happened, which might have cost them their lives, their boat being almost capsized by the sudden violence of the tide, called the Eager. Afterwards a Council was held to consider their plans, but its opinion being divided, no decision was arrived at. This hesitation was not to the liking of either Fairfax or Cromwell, and was not to be endured. Considering that old soldiers were good for long marches, young ones for hot service ; and that his army, now flushed with victory, was surrounded by a

(2). A Coppie of a Letter, &c., &c.

(3). Oldmixon.

(4). Parliament Post, No. 11.

friendly population, and backed by Taunton, the General wished, and resolved, to gain the town by storm. Preparations accordingly commenced. The great guns were advanced, and scaling ladders prepared and brought in, with other necessities, by the country people. Colonel Floyd's and Colonel Fortescue's regiments were sent to strengthen Major-General Massey, and three other regiments were told off for the assault on the north side. These marched about midnight, every man with a brush faggot, either in his hand or on his musket or pike, to throw into the ditches to aid in making a firm footing.<sup>5</sup> All being ready, the scaling ladders were brought up, but the water in the trenches when fathomed, was found unexpectedly to be ten feet deep. Orders were thus so far obeyed on the north side, when, about one o'clock, the two Generals came over from Massey's quarters and stopped further action.

This change in plan was induced partly by the depth of water discovered in the trenches, and in part from information received by Fairfax, that his intentions were known to the garrison within. On further consideration, too, it was seen that their knowledge of the strength of the works was imperfect, and that the preparations generally were too hurried to meet possible difficulties. It had been learned, also, that they within the town were much "saddled," and divided amongst themselves. It was therefore suggested that the place might be gained on easier terms, and the lives of the precious soldiers saved. So, although the men were willing enough, and rejoiced much at the chance of storming, Sir Thomas Fairfax, always careful of the lives of those "whom God had hitherto so preserved," allowed his discretion to check his valour, and was persuaded, rather to surround the town and reduce it by blockade.<sup>6</sup>

On the 15th, at a Council, this plan was confirmed, and the army began to make works and lines, with approaches very nearly to the town. It was determined to make these lines defen-

(5). Three Great Victories, &c. Sir Thomas Fairfax taking Bridgwater, &c.

(6). Perfect Occurrences, No. 30.

sive from within as well as without, and six thousand horse and foot, out of the fifteen thousand available, were put at the work. The remaining nine thousand were held ready to alarm if necessary, or, when the works were completed, to be drawn off for any other service. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 16th, 17th, and 18th July, these preparations continued.

On Wednesday, the 16th, there was another Council, at which this question of blockade was re-considered, when it was shown that to continue it would be too tedious; that the trenches or approaches when made, would in case of rain be soon filled with water, and thereby, with fair certainty, be either damaged or made useless. A further objection started was the difficulty, on account of the strong current, of laying a bridge over the river, by which communication could be kept up all round the town. Sir Thomas Fairfax seized the opportunity to again urge the storming, as although undoubtedly a dangerous work, it would, if successful, free his army for duty elsewhere.

On Friday, the 18th, the Council met in the field, when the plan of storming was further discussed. Most of the Council singly, were still opposed to it, but it happened, that in debate, it was carried otherwise. The consequences of failure were not unforeseen, but trusting to their "uncontrollable fortune," they determined to make the attempt.

Besides his own impatience, Fairfax possibly had other reasons for wishing to attack at once. Trying "all ways to do all things wisely," he had used the country people to learn the condition of the town, and by this means knew, that the inhabitants were "fearful and distracted," and were mostly a "godly people," guided by a worthy minister, Mr. Devenish, their vicar,<sup>7</sup> and that they would at any moment rise and assist him. He had learned also from some two hundred horse, taken whilst endeavouring to leave the town, as well as from others, prisoners escaped, that the soldiers were on constant duty, but that provisions were plentiful, mills only being wanted wherewith to

(7). Oldmixon.



grind the corn. It was determined therefore, to allow the garrison no rest, to keep up continual alarms by day and by night, but that any delay in the attack, if only with the hope of shortening provisions, would be perfectly useless.

The circuit of Bridgwater was not large but it was well defended, being surrounded by a deep ditch, six yards wide, which was filled to the brim at every tide; whilst on the north side was the Castle, very high, with walls fifteen feet thick, and the moat deep. For ordnance there were mounted forty pieces, besides a demi-cannon and a thirty-two pounder. Further, the fortifications raised without were strong and regular and rendered all approach difficult, especially on Eastover side. There was also a work at the east end of St. John's field; another between it and Dunweir; and between the north gate and the west gate was a battery which well defended both.

Lord Goring in his retreat, when going for Devon, left in the garrison two hundred and sixty oxen, besides Prince Rupert's regiment of horse and a thousand men, with ammunition.<sup>8</sup> Thus, with its own stores, it was well provisioned and very full of soldiers; and being in a perfectly level country, with a river passing through it, dividing it into almost equal parts, was exceedingly strong, both by nature and art.

On Saturday, the 19th, Sir Thomas Fairfax rode through the river, and after again viewing the works, placed his batteries.

The constant activity of the General was the subject of public remark at this time. Never idle, always deep in some design, it was wondered how he could watch, act, take so little rest, and yet hold out against so much fatigue. Difficulties never daunted him. Simply saying, "Come let us trust God," he took means to overcome them, and when the storming was determined on, he said to a minister in his army, "Commend us all to Christ, the Lord teach us all." And so, quietly and confidently, he carried on his work from first to last.<sup>9</sup>

Sunday, the 20th, was spent in religious exercises by all who

(8). Clarendon MSS., No. 1903.

(9). Mercurius Civicus, No. 114.

could be spared. In the forenoon Mr. Hugh Peters, and in the afternoon Mr. Bowles, applied themselves to the encouragement of the soldiers, urging them, on every design they went about, to "look upon Christ in all their actions and to be valiant in his cause."<sup>10</sup> After sermon the army was drawn up in the fields about Horsey and Bower. Cromwell with five regiments now lay in St. John's and Castle fields, and six other regiments at this time lay at Chedzoy. From these latter were taken by lot six hundred foot for the attack; four hundred to act under Col. Hewson and two hundred under Major Dove. The arrangement was that Major-Gen. Massey should give a great alarm on the south side, whilst these men stormed on the north. In the evening, about seven o'clock, they were drawn into the field and Mr. Peters again preached to them, exhorting them "after his manner, *tam marte quam mercurio*," valiantly to do their duty. In this work Mr. Baxter assisted him. All volunteered readily, and in their impatient eagerness for the fray, could hardly wait for orders.

The preparations being completed, as soon as it was dark they drew to their posts, and guided by the state of the tide, about two o'clock in the morning of Monday, the 21st July, marched up to the works, freely, cheerfully, and with great joy, not doubting but the "Lord would perfect the work he had begun by them."

Both Generals had approved of some bridges designed by Col. Hammond, planned either to span the moat, or to float if required. Eight of these had been made thirty feet long, and were now brought up on waggons to St. John's field and Castle field, and, with the assistance of some firelock men, were smartly laid, although not without difficulty, by the officers of the "train." The signal, three guns, was then given for both sides to attack together, and the forlorn hope began with great courage to pass over the bridges. Unfortunately, some of these failed to answer their intended purpose, and many of the men

(10). A fuller relation from Bridgwater since the last fight, &c., &c.

were obliged to wade through the water. All, however, stood boldly to their work, and not regarding the shower of bullets sent amongst them, nor the firing of the guns from the Castle, fighting like lions, they succeeded in forcing an entry, and drove the defenders into the Market Place and into the church, which was very strong. A footing thus gained, the "fort royal" was next taken, and its cannon quickly turned upon the men in the Market Place.

By the bridge stood Mr. Harvey's house, and being in a position prejudicial for the defence, its destruction had been ordered; but having been built only eight years, Mr. Harvey, who was Lord of the Manor, by "much strong influence," got leave for it to stand. This was next secured, and some guns got into it, which were also turned on the Market Place.<sup>11</sup> A party now let down the drawbridge at St. John's and forced the east gate, when Captain Reynolds entered Eastover with some of Cromwell's regiment, and having with him pikemen, who kept well up with the horse, he scoured the streets, driving the defenders, who were principally Sir John Stowell's regiment, to the bridge, and over the river dividing the town. The gate there was instantly closed, the drawbridge raised, and the side works strongly manned, and so all further success was checked.

The one part of the town being cleared, five hundred foot surrendered themselves prisoners, and were plundered. They were found to belong to a regiment from Pembroke, and being well disposed to the Parliament, three hundred of them took the Covenant and joined Sir Thomas Fairfax, saying they were proud to be taken by such an enemy.

About a week afterwards Captain Swanley reported that he had taken twenty ships off the Welsh coast, which had been destined to carry Royalist troops to Uphill, and he asked that the garrisons in Pembroke might be strengthened. Fairfax, in reply, sent over these men to protect their own country.<sup>12</sup>

(11). Sir T. Fairfax entering Bridgwater.

(12). The Proceedings of Sir Thomas Fairfax, No. 5.

Besides these prisoners, there were taken five pieces of ordnance, sixty horses, and much good booty. Twenty men only were killed, and about a hundred wounded; though in the general judgment at the time, from the fierceness of the fight, it was thought that not fewer than a thousand might have been slain. It happened that in the twilight the defenders fired high, and the shot passed over.

Colonel Hewson, to whose lot it had fallen to lead this attack, had been a shoemaker. To the many congratulations he received, he simply replied, with outward humility, "we are unprofitable servants, we can do nothing."<sup>13</sup> The soldiers, however, did not conceal their feelings, and were greatly inspirited, hoping eagerly, now the north side was thus secured, soon to get the whole. A report of this good fortune was sent to London by Major Butler, who was voted a reward of thirty pounds.

The Governor, Colonel Windham, was much enraged at his unexpected loss, and determined to use every means to dislodge the victors. To this end, after a lapse of about two hours he commenced firing hot shot into Eastover, and that part of the town was soon in flames, and continued burning fiercely until the evening of the next day. Hardly three houses escaped untouched,<sup>14</sup> but Major Cowell, with the flames raging on all sides around him, kept his ground with the guard entrusted to him, ready to check any sally from the other quarter. This destruction sadly troubled Sir Thomas Fairfax, and when the Royalists rang their bells for joy his anger increased. At five o'clock in the morning he sent a trumpeter with a summons for surrender, but the Governor replied haughtily that he would listen to no such proposal, and at once commenced strengthening his position.

Nothing further was done this day, but a second storm was ordered for the morrow, Tuesday, the 22nd, with, this time, Major-General Massey, an active, bold man, on the south side

(13). *Kingdom's Weekly*, No. 110.

(14). *Symond's Diary*. A *Diary*, &c., No. 63.

without, to act simultaneously with those on the north side within. This plan was however changed to one for a general alarm only, which produced no result, and failed to work on the defenders. Another trumpet was then sent with a second summons, but was again defiantly answered, that the fight should be continued whilst there was a man left. Mrs. Windham, laying her hand on her bosom, said to the messenger, "These breasts gave suck to Prince Charles, they shall never be at your mercy. We will hold it to the last."<sup>15</sup>

The Governor being thus obstinate, the original plan of storming was resumed, with the determination to carry it out with all vigour and severity. But first, "lest the innocent should suffer with the nocent," at two o'clock in the afternoon Sir Thomas Fairfax, whose character was a composition of courage and courtesy, sent in a trumpeter, offering leave for all the women and children to come out before four. For this unexpected gallantry Colonel Windham returned his best thanks, and accordingly Mrs. Windham, the Lady Governess, as she liked to be called, "one too guilty of the misery of the place;" Lady Stowell, Lady Hawley, Mrs. Warre, and others, about eight hundred altogether, left the garrison.

At five o'clock the attack was commenced with the great guns and the mortar pieces taken from the King at Naseby, and these playing on the town with fireballs<sup>16</sup> and hot iron, and aided by a shower of red-hot "hoggets" from the musketeers, fired it in three places. The wind being strong, the fire quickly increased, so that it was soon burning in twenty places on all sides, especially about Cornhill, St. Mary Street, and High Street.<sup>17</sup> To be rid of the garrison, the townsmen also set fire to several houses in Silver Street, Friar Street, and Pigs' Cross, reporting, that by Mrs. Windham's orders the soldiers were to do so, as

(15). Rushworth. This lady, who was the daughter of Hugh Pyne, of Lincoln's Inn, had been nurse to the Prince.

(16). A Brief Relation of the Taking of Bridgwater, &c., &c.

(17). Mr. Peter's Report from the Army to the Parliament, &c.



soon as there was no longer hope of holding them.<sup>18</sup> The state of things for the inhabitants now became terrible, and "wrought such a terror," that they began to wish they were with their wives. Presently Tom Eliot, one of the King's pages, "he that ran away with the great seal, nurse Windham's darling," came "running" out to ask for a treaty or terms.<sup>19</sup> The General fiercely replied, that as the Governor had refused previous offers, and had brought the misery on himself, he could not listen to him, but if he would submit to mercy he should have it. With this Eliot departed, on the understanding that he was to return in a quarter of an hour with a positive answer. He soon came back with the following propositions:—

1. That the Governor and officers should march away with their horses and pistols, and the common soldiers with their arms, and have a safe convoy to Exeter.

2. That the inhabitants of the town might either stay or have liberty to go with them.

3. That the like liberty should be given to the clergy.<sup>20</sup>

To this Sir Thomas Fairfax produced his terms:—

1. That all should have quarter for their lives.

2. That the soldiers should march out without being stripped of their clothes.

(18). A continuation of the Proceedings of Sir Thomas Fairfax, No. 4.

(19). In May, 1642, from York, the King sent Mr. Thos Eliot to the Lord Keeper Littleton in London, who up to that time had rather acted with the Parliament, requesting him to come off at once to York with the Great Seal. As he would probably be pursued, and was a sufferer from stone or gravel, the King's letter suggested that he should give the Seal to the bearer, and himself come on leisurely, to avoid the otherwise painful fatigue. At first the keeper refused, declaring he would deliver the Seal to the King only, but after two hours delay, Eliot demanding it with rude importunity, he gave it up. Eliot at once mounted his horse and rode off to the King. For his expedition and good success he was promised a reward, but as this did not come from the King so quickly as he expected, he determined to receive it only through the Queen, with whom he was already a favourite. Accordingly he wrote to Lord Digby, to ask her Majesty to get him made a Groom of the Chamber, promising that for such a favour, neither her Majesty nor his Lordship should "ever find a more real servant."

(20). Perfect Account, No. 30.

3. That the townsmen should enjoy their habitations without plunder.

4. That the gentlemen and others should be left to the disposal of the Parliament.

5. That six hostages should be sent out to him.<sup>21</sup>

With this Eliot returned, and soon came again, now accompanied by Sir John Heale, with a reply that the Governor and gentlemen could not agree to it. Fairfax at once "drew off," as if all conference were at an end, and gave orders for the soldiers to stand to their duty. Upon this, Eliot went to him, and begged him to wait yet a little, until he could go and return once more, offering to leave Sir John Heale as hostage. To this Fairfax agreed. As Eliot passed the camp the soldiers cried out to him, that if any within took off a slate, or endeavoured in the least to stop the fire, the cessation should be void, and they would fall on and take all advantage.<sup>22</sup> In the end the fire "melted" the resolution of the Governor; and the townsmen, wearied with saving their goods, and finding the fire could not be quenched before a surrender would be imperative, cried, "Mercy, for the Lord's sake."<sup>23</sup> Being thus pressed, at nine o'clock Eliot went out again, agreed to the terms, and asked who should be sent out as hostages. Sir John Heale, Sir Hugh Windham (a son of the Governor), Major Sydenham, Mr. Speke, Mr. Waldron, and Mr. Warre, were named, and in exchange for them other hostages were sent into the town.<sup>24</sup>

Next morning, the 23rd July, the garrison surrendered, and the conquerors entered. For almost, if not quite, the first time during the war, the articles agreed to were honestly and fully kept, the soldiers refraining from all violence or injury, and behaving themselves "very gallantly," both to the prisoners and the townsmen. A little later in the day, as the General and

(21). Weekly Account, No. 30.

(22). Perfect Diurnal, No. 104.

(23). Mercurius Britannicus, No. 91.

(24). Sir Thomas Fairfax—Letter to the Hon. Wm. Lenthall, Esq.

his officers were standing in the town, about a hundred muskets which lay together near them "took fire," but most fortunately no harm was done, and all escaped.

Colonel Montague, who, in the absence of General Skippon, had been placed to act in the attack as a Major-General, was only twenty-one years of age, but he well performed the duties allotted to him.<sup>25</sup>

Besides a hundred and twenty officers, about fifty gentlemen of note, and "a good store of fat priests," two bishops being reported at the time amongst them, there were also taken a thousand prisoners, eight hundred horses, five thousand stands of arms, and thirty-six cannon, including the Lord General's "warning piece," and the "twisted piece" from Exeter, known as Prince Rupert's Pocket Pistol; ten loads of ammunition, forty-four barrels of gunpowder, and fourteen hundred weight of match; Colonel Windham's and all Goring's bag and baggage; and much other good booty in the shape of household goods and furniture, stored there for safety. Further, there were secured six hundred oxen, provisions for four months, and a hundred thousand pounds in money, plate, and jewels.<sup>26</sup> The colours and standards were mostly destroyed by the fire.

Colonel Windham, taking his quarter, went the same night to Weston, having only the horse that carried him,<sup>27</sup> and those who accompanied him were in a similar plight, having only the clothes they wore. Two thousand two hundred soldiers marched off under convoy, also to Weston; others were sent to London, whilst many enlisted for the Parliament, and went to Ireland.

Amongst those taken, besides the Governor and the hostages already mentioned, were Colonel Robert Phillips, Captain John Byam, Captain Phillips of Wells, Cornet James Clerk, Ensign Shepherd, Ensign Robert Shore, Mr. Waldron, Mr. Henry Sydenham of Donyat, Mr. Thomas Slater of Mallet, Philip

(25). Kingdom's Weekly.

(26). The True Informer, No. 14.

(27). Parliament Post.

Sydenham, Will Sydenham, John Rawley, Henry Rawley, Joseph Greenvill of Stanton, Mr. Star or Sterry of Yeovil, Mr. Sletman of Bruton, Francis Smith of Nicholas, Henry Rogers, Mr. Bamfylde, Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Harvey, Lord of the Manor; also, Dr. Rawley, Dean of Wells, and Rector of Chedzoy, Walton, and Shrell; Mr. William Sydenham, curate; William Dean, chaplain to the Governor; and ten other clergymen. Colonel Humphrey Waldron and Captain Byam accepted a sum of money to go beyond sea, and retired to Barbadoes.<sup>28</sup>

On the 22nd, at midnight, being just after the conclusion of the treaty, Sir Thomas Fairfax sent off to the Parliament, by letter, a report of his success, and which was printed on the 24th.<sup>29</sup> The House voted a reward of twenty pounds to the messenger, and ordered all ministers in their several churches throughout the city, on the next Lord's day, to return hearty thanks to God, for this great mercy and blessing upon the Parliament forces.<sup>30</sup> On Friday, the 25th, two other letters arrived, one from Major-General Massey, and one from Mr. Secretary Rushworth; and on the 26th came Mr. Hugh Peters, sent by Sir Thomas Fairfax, with other letters, and to give a full personal narrative from his own knowledge. His presence at the door being known, he was at once called in, and made his statement. For his services he was voted a hundred pounds. At the same time a letter of thanks was ordered for the General, and another for his officers.

Sir Thomas Fairfax, in his report, had expressed a wish that some encouragement should be given to the soldiers for their honest and sober demeanour towards the prisoners and the town, and for restraining themselves from the violence which had hitherto been usual in similar cases. Accordingly, in addition to a sum of three thousand pounds, which had been sent from London to Portsmouth on the 24th, wherewith to pay

(28). The Byam Memoirs.

(29). Sir Thomas Fairfax's letter to the Speaker, &c.

(30). State Papers, 1645, No. 24. A Perfect Diurnal.

the men, five thousand pounds more were raised and sent to him, to be disposed of entirely as he should think fit.<sup>31</sup>

The Commissioners with the army next collected the many good things dispersed through the town, all fair spoil; sold a part of them in the Market Place on the 25th, and from the proceeds distributed amongst the soldiers three shillings per man.<sup>32</sup>

Mr. Harvey's property suffered greatly. During the two years that the Royalists held the town, his estate had been sequestered, without any allowance to his wife and children, and he now had not a bed left to lie upon. He afterwards endeavoured to get repaid for his many losses, amounting, as he stated, in cattle, horses, and sheep, to four thousand pounds.

So fell Bridgwater, that strong, well-manned, well-provisioned town, of which the capture was expected to have cost many a gallant life, and a tedious siege of many months.

The news amazed, astonished, and heavily depressed the King, especially as he had been repeatedly, and always, assured, that the place was impregnable, and would never be taken. He would listen to no explanations, and refused to consider it excusable, that resistance was not prolonged even for one week. It also broke the spirits of his party, and made all despair.

(31). *Mercurius Civicus*, No. 114.

(32). *Mercurius Civicus*, No. 116.



## Barrington Court.

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BY THOMAS BOND.

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**B**ARRINGTON Court, four miles from Ilminster, is one of the best specimens of domestic architecture of the early Tudor period in this county; and though it has long been converted into a farm house, it remains, externally, in a fair state of preservation. Built on a ground-plan in the form of an E, which was so much the fashion in this century, its material is well wrought and closely fitted ashlar, from the neighbouring quarries of Ham Hill; and the stone having acquired by age a rich and mellow hue, the structure has a venerable appearance. With but little of ornamental detail, (though what there is is very good), the loftiness, and general proportions of the building—its extent, and solidity of masonry, and the taste and care with which every part has been designed and carried out by the architect, give it an air of dignity and importance.

The angles, both of the wings and porch, are supported by diagonal buttresses of two stages, from the summit of which spring fluted octagonal angle-shafts, supporting twisted pinnacles with scaled ogee caps, surmounted by finials. The points of the great gables have similar pinnacles, which are repeated both at the springs and points of the dormers. Those at the springs have the fluted octagonal angle-shafts; but having no buttresses to support them, they are merely sustained by corbels. The construction is faulty, as is manifest from some of the pinnacles having given way from want of adequate support. On either side of each of the pinnacles which spring from the points of the great gables, is a twisted octagonal chimney shaft with embattled top.

The porch is eccentric, being so placed in order to give more space for the great hall. Its doorway has a fore-centred arch, with bold Gothic mouldings, but no label or hood-moulding. The porch is carried up to the roof of the house, and has a projecting chimney on each side, supported by corbelled masonry.

At the angles, formed by the junction of the wings with the central block of the building, there are rectangular projections, or counter angles, with windows, forming kind of two-sided oriels, which serve for passages, through which access is obtained to the apartments in the wings, without interfering with the intermediate rooms. These projections reach the roof, and terminate in dormers.

The windows of the house are large, and have generally four arch-headed lights, divided by transoms similarly arched. The windows at the ends of the wings have five lights each.

The great hall is more lofty than the other rooms, and in order to accommodate this arrangement the windows of the apartments above it are shorter than the others in the same range. The mullions of the hall windows have been removed, and replaced by sashes, to the great detriment of the general appearance of the façade.

Nearly all the internal fittings have been destroyed, leaving little besides a small portion of oak wainscot in one of the rooms, and a stone chimney-piece in the drawing room. The latter dates, apparently, from the 17th century, and is decorated with the arms and quarterings of the Strode family, who owned the place at that period. In the bedrooms are some contemporary stone chimney-pieces.

The back and sides of the house are worthy of notice. They have bold projecting chimneys, and the back presents some examples of mullioned windows, which in shape and proportions are well suited for modern requirements. All the chimney shafts are octagonal and twisted, with embattled tops; and when looked at in conjunction with the numerous pinnacles, the whole presents a rich and dressy appearance.

The characteristic features of the architecture are those which prevailed during the reign of Henry VIII ; and the taste and dignity of the design (simple though it is), together with the solidity of its execution, seem to point out that some person of wealth and importance must have been the founder of this noble mansion. Such a person is found to have been owner of the property at the period in question, for the estate belonged during nearly the whole of the reign of Henry VIII to Henry Lord Daubeney, created Earl of Bridgwater. We can scarcely err, therefore, in assuming that the house was erected under his auspices. Though placed in a low situation, it is said to be neither damp nor unhealthy. A park anciently surrounded it, for which the natural configuration of the ground is not ill adapted, and which in the hands of a skilful landscape gardener might be successfully restored.

Barrington belonged from an early period to the baronial family of De Albeniaco or Daubeney ; Radulphus de Albeniaco held it, together with South Petherton, 20th Edward I. Eliás Daubeney was summoned to Parliament as a baron from 23rd to 53rd Edward I inclusive, and died about the latter year. In 1st Richard III this manor was in the crown, probably on account of a forfeiture arising out of the civil wars immediately preceding, for on 19th December in the same year, William Bracher, one of the yeomen of the crown to the King, was appointed bailiff or lessee of the manor for his life, with 4d. per diem, and £40 per annum out of the profits. But on the 25th March following, the manor, described as late belonging to Sir Giles Daubeney, was granted by the crown to Ralph Lord Nevile. In 5th Henry VIII, George Nevile, Lord Bergavenny, sold it to Henry Lord Daubeney (son of Sir Giles), who was created Earl of Bridgwater in 30th Henry VIII. The latter died without issue, 2nd Edward VI, and seems to have settled this estate on his wife for life, with remainder to Sir Thomas Arundel (a relation on his mother's side) in fee. On the attainder of the Countess of Bridgwater and Sir Thomas Arundel,

Barrington again fell to the crown. In 6th Edward VI, it was granted to Henry, Duke of Suffolk (father of the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey), who the same year sold it to William Clifton. Sir John Clifton, Knt., died at Barrington, 25th May, 35th Elizabeth, seized of the capital messuage and park of Barrington, and Gervease Clifton was his son and heir, 23 years old, and more. Gervease Clifton afterwards became a knight, and sold this manor, 1st December, 3rd James I (1605), to Sir Thos. Phillipps, Knt., eldest son of Thomas Phellips of Montacute, and brother of Sir Edward Phillips,<sup>1</sup> Master of the Rolls. He died in 1618, and Thomas Phillips, his son and heir, was created a baronet, by the title of Sir Thomas Phillips of Barrington, 16th February, 1619. The latter was in possession of this estate in February, 18th James I (1621), when he mortgaged it to Arthur Farwile, Esq., and it very soon after (apparently before 1623) passed by purchase to the Strode family. William Strode of Barrington and of Shepton Mallet, Esq., made his will in 1745, and dying without issue, this manor passed to his sister, and heir-at-law, Jane, wife of Robert Austin of Tenterden, county Kent. Their eldest surviving son and heir, Sir Edward Austin of Barley Abbey, in Bexley, in the same county, Bart., sold it to Thomas Harvard of Thorney, in the parish of Muchelney, county Somerset, Gent., 17th September, 1755; but the conveyance was not completed till 6th April following. Mr. Harvard's only surviving child married Mr. John Hanning, father of Mr. William Hanning, whose son and heir, John Lee Hanning, Esq., assumed the name of Lee, and sold this property to Mr. J. W. Peters of South Petherton. The latter gave it by will to his nephew, Mr. William Parsons, who has taken the name of Peters, and is the present owner.

(1). The name is thus variously spelt in contemporary documents. It was anciently sometimes written without the final s.

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## Notes on the Megalithic Antiquities at Stanton Drew.<sup>1</sup>

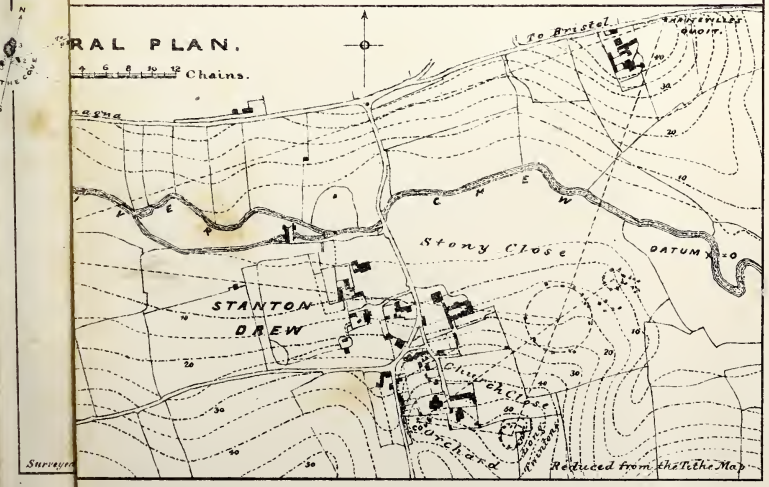
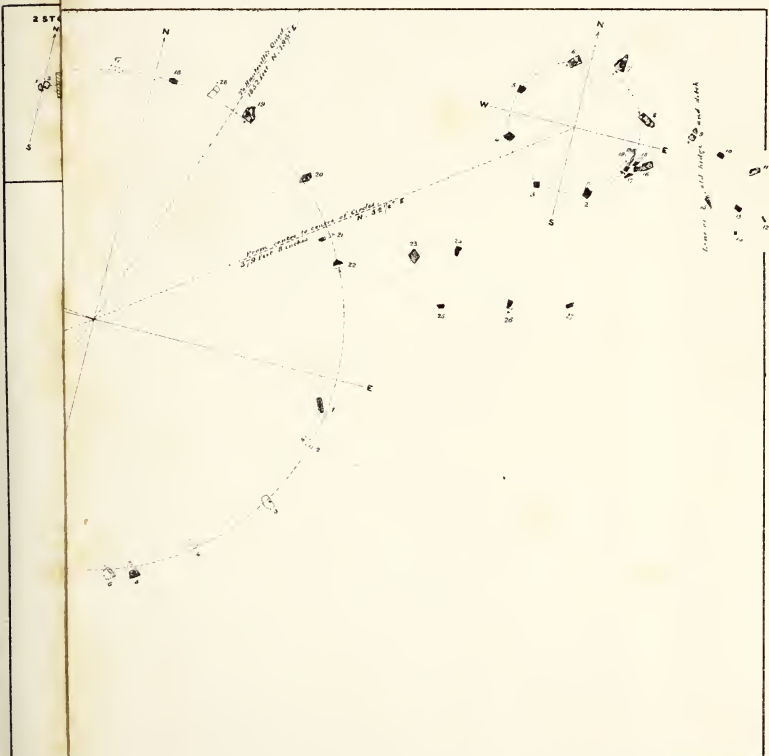
BY C. W. DYMOND, C.E.

THESE remains are situated in a broad, rich valley, about six miles south of Bristol, overlooked on the north and south by high hills; and consist of three peristaliths,—two of them with attached avenues; a group of three large stones, called “The Cove;” two prostrate stones in a field, at the distance of about two-thirds of a mile to the west of the circles; and one prostrate stone, called “Hauteville’s” or “Hackell’s Quoit,” about one-third of a mile to the north-north-east of the large circle.

The accompanying plan is a reduced *fac-simile* of one which has been plotted to a large scale, with the utmost care, from an accurate instrumental survey. The magnetic bearings were taken with a prismatic compass, the readings of which were adjusted by angular measurements with a sextant. To insure that these should be as correct as possible, special observations were made to ascertain the local deviation of the magnetic needle, which was found to be  $20^{\circ}$  west of north. The distances from the large circle to the quoit, and to the stones in Lower Tynning, are scaled from the tithe-map; but the magnetic bearings of these outlying objects from the circle and from one another, together with that of the line between the cove and the large circle,—none of which could be directly taken, in consequence of the intervention of obstacles,—have been deduced from others which were instrumentally observed. Contour-lines, shewing differences of five feet in vertical height, referred to a *datum* on the bank of the stream, are traced on the parish-

(1). Condensed from a paper by the author, published in the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* for 30th September, 1877.





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(1). Condensed from a paper by the author, published in the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* for 30th September, 1877.





map by means of a series of levels taken over the whole area occupied by the remains.

It being known that several of the stones were long ago entirely buried in the ground by a former tenant of the land, repeated and exhaustive search for them has been made. This has brought to light several that, hitherto, have been only suspected to exist; and it is believed that none of the hidden stones can now have escaped detection. The edges of those which are either partially or entirely below the surface have been carefully traced with a probe, where they have not been revealed by digging. The results of this inquisition are embodied in the plan which gives to the large circle twenty-four stones, being ten more<sup>2</sup> than are shewn in Crocker's plan, and six more than are mentioned by Rutter, who, in his *Delineations of Somerset*, 1829, describes five stones as standing erect, eight others as "evidently buried just below the surface, whilst the position of five more is indicated in dry summers by the withering of the turf over them." The plan in Seyer's *History of Bristol*, 1821, shews fourteen stones standing or lying distinctly above ground, eight others as nearly buried, and five more as merely conjectural, or "only suspicious." All of these have been found, except three,—two of which (those assumed to be between Nos. 6 and 7, and Nos. 14 and 15) are in the last category, and, evidently, do not exist: the third is that which Seyer has placed at the root of the southern line of the large-circle-avenue, and has indicated as partly visible. This last cannot now be found, and I conclude that Seyer must have been misled by the small fragments which abound at that spot in a layer a few inches below the surface, and which may be the remains of a stone long ago broken up. In the south-west circle, Seyer has shewn a partly visible stone, about half-way between Nos. 6 and 7. It is not there now; but, possibly, its remains may exist in the fragments at the corner of the wall, near the centre of the circle. Traces of a buried stump, as dotted in the plan,—

(2). Nos. 2, 3, 4, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 28, and 29.



probably the broken base of the prostrate stone,—were found by probing at the rear of the cove, the site of which, within and without, appears to be formed of small rammed rubble, which was often used for keeping erect stones in position. No such foundation-bed has, however, been detected in connexion with the circles and avenues.

The sixty-six stones now remaining at Stanton Drew may be tabulated thus:—

	Erect Stones.	Prostrate Stones.	
		More or less visible.	Quite buried.
Large Circle .....	3	15	6
Ditto ditto Avenue ....	3	2	—
North-east Circle .....	5	4	—
Ditto ditto Avenue, etc.	5	5	—
South-west Circle .....	—	12	—
The Cove .....	2	1	—
Lower Tynings .....	—	2	—
Hauteville's Quoit ....	—	1	—
Totals.....	18	42	6

Hauteville's Quoit was formerly larger than it now is. In 1664, Aubrey, on the authority of a friend who measured it for him, reports its dimensions as 10 ft. 6 in. × 6 ft. 6 in. × 1 ft. 10 in. In 1773, Stukeley (doubtless exaggerating) gives the figures, 13 ft. × 8 ft. × 4 ft.

Stone No. 16 in the avenue of the north east-east circle, now prostrate, was part of a *mênhir* of which another part, No. 18, remains rooted, though much declined from the perpendicular. The apex and south-eastern side of the latter match exactly with the recessed face of No. 16. It therefore originally stood nearly behind No. 1 which was a separate stone, and appears never to have been disturbed or injured. The thin slab leaning against the western end of No. 16 must originally have formed its base, and have flaked off when this portion of the *mênhir* fell.

Those stones which are still erect are filled in with black on the plan.<sup>3</sup> Two of these in the north-east circle and its avenue decline from the upright; and one in the cove projects edgewise considerably beyond its base: the overhang in each case is shown in unshaded outline. The visible portions of prostrate stones are stippled and line-shaded: the edges of those parts which are underground are indicated by dotted outlines.

Two of the stones are new red sandstone—the rock of the site; one is similar to that obtained from Dundry—4 miles north-west; a few are limestone from neighbouring quarries; and the rest—by far the majority—are a pebbly breccia of the magnesian limestone, probably brought from Broadfield Down—6 miles west, or from East Harptree—6 miles south.

The large and north-east circles stand in a pasture sloping very gently toward the stream on the north-east. A rather quicker fall eastward occurs on the line of an old hedge, at about the middle of the avenue of the north-east circle. From the large circle the ground rises rather more rapidly toward the south-west circle which is on a level platform, of its own diameter. From this the ground falls in every direction,—very gently toward the west and north-west, and most steeply toward the east. The cove stands on a slight slope, at the brow of a small, flat-topped knoll, of nearly equal height, level to the north-east, as far as the church,—which stands near its edge,—declining very gently toward the east and south-east, but most steeply toward the west.

If the country were bare the undermentioned points would be visible from one another:—

Stones in Lower Tynning, from base of cove; from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot over centre of large circle; and from 8 feet above-ground at quoit.

Centre of south-west circle, from base of cove; centre of north-east circle, from 5 feet high at cove; centre of large circle, from 6 feet high at the same.

(3). From the greatly reduced scale of the photolithograph, this distinction is not clearly preserved, as it is in the original plan. The reference-table, however, will clear up any ambiguity.

Centre of south-west circle, from base of quoit; centre of large circle, from height of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet at quoit; centre of north-east circle, from height of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet at the same.

Centre of large circle, from height of 6 feet at centre of south-west circle; centre of north-east circle, from height of 4 feet at centre of south-west circle.

The magnetic bearings, &c., of the avenues are as follow :—

#### NORTH-EAST CIRCLE.

North line of stones bears E.,  $13\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  S.; and points 31 ft. N. of centre of circle.

South line of stones bears E.;  $8\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$  S.; and points  $9\frac{1}{2}$  ft. S. of centre of circle, and 4 ft. N. of stone No. 1, running through the base of Nos. 16 and 18, when *in situ*.

Centre line of avenue bears E.,  $11^{\circ}$  S.; and points 11 ft. N. of centre of circle.

#### LARGE CIRCLE.

North line of stones bears N.,  $65^{\circ}$  E.; and points to centre of circle<sup>4</sup> (?).

South line of stones bears N.,  $75^{\circ}$  E.; and points 6 ft. N. of centre of circle.

Centre line of avenue bears N.,  $70^{\circ}$  E.; and points 3 ft. N. of centre of circle; or

Centre line of avenue bears N.,  $73\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$  E.; and points 19 ft. N. of centre of circle, if the northern line of stones took the direction suggested in the note below.

The points from which the circles were ranged have been found by trial on the plotted plan; and indicate, as closely as it is now possible to discover, the centres of the work as it stood when perfect. To this end, the position of every stone has been studied on the ground, and, where practicable, the part which was, either certainly or apparently, the base of each has been marked by a small cross. As a rule which admits of but few exceptions,—and these are accounted for by the form of the ground,—that

(4). Great uncertainty attaches to this, as only one stone in this line remains standing. The direction given runs through the cross at the foot of stone No. 22, which, being small, and lying across the circular line, has very likely been shifted from its place. This line of stones may have run to, and included, the small stone, No. 14 of the north-east avenue; in which case its direction would have been N.,  $72\frac{1}{3}^{\circ}$  E.; and it would have pointed 32 ft. north of the centre of the circle.

# STANTON DREW, SOMERSET.



*View of N.E. Circle, looking W.*



*The Cove, looking W.  
from a measured sketch*





end of a stone which is now the lowest, and is sunk more or less into the soil, was, undoubtedly, the original base. Where it has been found difficult to choose between two sides, a cross is put to each; but it is altogether omitted in cases where it has been impossible to decide on its proper place. From the ascertained centres, dotted circles have been struck, representing, as closely as possible, the lines on which the stones appear to have been originally set up. It is thus made evident that these rings were not (as has hitherto been supposed) ellipses of various degrees of eccentricity, but that, when perfect, they were very nearly true circles.

There has been much difference of opinion as to what were the original numbers of stones with which the three circles were constructed; and facts have sometimes been greatly strained (even to the extent of diminishing the number of stones now existing,) in the endeavour to give support to preconceived theories. With respect to the north-east circle, there can be no room for doubt that there were always, as now, only eight members, spaced at nearly equal distances around the curve, at opposite extremities of the respective diameters. The plan of the south-west circle shews a similar oppositeness in the remaining stones, even though all of these have been overthrown, and some of them, doubtless, displaced. Nos. 1 and 2 may originally have been one stone, as also Nos. 10 and 11. Then, looking at the present spacing, there seems to be room for one in the interval between Nos. 10 and 12, and for two more between Nos. 6 and 7. This would give thirteen for the complete number; but it is quite possible that there were only twelve, or even so few as eleven. When we come to the large circle, the case is much less clear. The stones which remain are spaced at irregular intervals, and yet almost every one has a *vis à vis*. To make the couples complete, (if Nos. 11 and 12 are reckoned one stone, as they perhaps were), three more stones are required respectively in the intervals between Nos. 6 and 7, Nos. 14 and 15, and Nos. 1 and 22,—in which last case there was, no doubt,

one at the root of the southern line of the avenue. This will give the complete conjectural number 26 for this circle,—or 27 if Nos. 11 and 12 were two distinct stones.

The cove has been another bone of contention. With some it has been a throne or chair of state for the arch-druid, who has been vividly pictured as sitting within its ample arms several times a-day to dispense justice! With others it has been a dolmên. If we suppose the latter, its reconstruction is attended by the following difficulties:—The prostrate stone (which could not possibly have fallen, as it has, if it had been the “table-stone”) must have been a side-stone standing erect where its southern end now is, and at right-angles with the other two, on the broken stump which still seems to be traceable in the ground. We shall thus have three uprights of greatly varying height—one 14 ft. 6 in. high, another 10 ft. 3 in., and a third 4 ft. 6 in. It would be impossible to rest a cap-stone on these; and, to carry such a one, we must provide a supporter on the southern side, nearly, if not quite, as high as the prostrate one. Then, over the head-stone there would be a gap about 4 ft. high, in addition to the large square hole on one side of its base; and, over the foot-stone, a gap 10 ft. high, increased by the pyramidal shape of the stone. Now, not only would such a dolmên be of most unusual height, in proportion to its length and width, but its chamber would always be open to easy access, which it would indeed tax the ingenuity of the sternest unbeliever in “free-standing” dolmêns to close by microlithic masonry, as a necessary preparation for covering it with a mound. But, if there were formerly a fourth side-stone and a table-stone, what has become of them? They are not buried in the soil which is very shallow. There is no reason for supposing that they have disappeared during the present century; so that it is not likely that they were broken up to make or mend the country lane which passes near by; and no fragments of such stones can be seen in any of the neighbouring fences or buildings. The inference, therefore, seems plain, that these three

stones are all that this monument ever possessed; and it is fortified by the fact that two instances of a similar kind formerly existed at Avebury. It may be well to note here that the magnetic bearing of a line passing through the centres of the two standing stones in the cove is N.  $59^{\circ}$  E., and that of a transverse line between the same stones is S.  $33^{\circ}$  E.

In the preceding notes I have, for the most part, been careful to avoid repeating what has been published before. The best general account of Stanton Drew that has hitherto appeared is that by William Long, Esq., F.S.A., which will be found in the *Archæological Journal* for 1858. From want, however, of trustworthy data, all writers on this subject have entertained many misconceptions, and fallen into serious errors. It is now hoped that the completeness and accuracy of the particulars furnished by the accompanying plan and notes will set at rest several of the vexed questions that have arisen in the study of these remains.

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# A short Report on some MS. Accounts of the Commonalty of Bridgewater.

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THE rolls which form the subject of the present brief memoir contain certain annual statements of receipts and expenditure made by an officer called, in the earliest instance, the Receiver of the Commonalty of the Town of Bridgewater; and later, the Bailiff of the Commonalty, the Common Bailiff, or simply the Bailiff. Probably the office thus designated was the usual stepping-stone to the position of Mayor, or Portreeve (as it was in the earlier days) of our ancient borough. The collection to which my remarks have reference consists of seventeen of such yearly accounts; the sequence is rather broken, as may be seen from the fact that they range from the 47th year of Edward III (1372) to the 6th and 7th of Edward IV (1466-7). We have thus specimens of annual expenditure taken at random over a period of nearly a century.<sup>1</sup>

(1). I append a list of the documents of which I speak. The dates are counted from Michaelmas in each year. I have noted the spelling of the name of the town, concerning which a question was raised at the recent meeting.

1. John Smok, Receiver of the Commonalty of the town of Bruggewater. (Heading:—*Computum J.S. receptoris communitatis villae de B.*); 47-49 Ed. III, 1372-76.
2. Ric. Salter, Bailiff of the Commonalty. (*Comput. R.S. Balli Cōitatis*). 20-21 Ric. II, 1397-8. Bruggewater.
3. Thomas Sequard. From Michaelmas, 21 Ric. II, 1398. Paper, much torn. Briggewater.
4. An account of which the heading is lost; temp. Ric. II.
5. Ric. Baker, Bailiff of the Commonalty. 23 Ric. II, and 1 Hen. IV, 1399-1400. Briggewater. Paper, in bad condition.
6. John Aileward. 6-7 Hen. VI, 1427-8.

The rolls are of very various size and length; but, as a rule, each consists of a single sheet or strip of paper, or parchment—generally the latter, for which we may be thankful, as the paper ones are, with a single exception, ragged, and in bad condition. This exception occurs in the case of one account, which consists of five octavo sheets of paper, and is noteworthy as being the only one written in English throughout. The majority endeavour to stick to Latin, and only have recourse to English when in distress; this one sticks to English, and only employs a Latin word or phrase here and there for convenience. Instead of calling itself the “*Computum Communis Ballivi*,” it begins, “Thes bith the parcelles that John Aileward hath resseved fro the ffest of Seynt Michell anno sexto Henrici Sexti unto the same ffest ther aftur next follewyng prout patet.”<sup>2</sup>

As to the general features of these documents—they begin, naturally, with a statement of the year’s receipts, usually arranged in this way:—(1) Receipts from house and garden property belonging to the Commonalty, (2) Moneys contributed for special

7. John Hanford, Common Bailiff (*Communis Ballivus*). 19 Hen. VI, 1440-1. Briggewater.
8. Robert Beaumont (spelt *Beamonud* and *Beamound*), C.B. 20 Hen. VI, 1442. Briggewater.
9. John Hurdecombe, C.B. 22 Hen. VI, 1444.
10. Wm. Alys, C.B. Probably 1444-5. Parchment, mutilated. Briggewater.
11. Ralph Gardiner, B.C. 31-2 Hen. VI, 1452-3. Briggewater.
12. Walter Parys. 32-3 Hen. VI, 1453-4. Briggewater.
13. John Parker (A.), Bailiff. 33-4 Hen. VI, 1454-5. Briggewater.
14. John Parker (B.), B.C. 34 Hen. VI, 1455-6. Briggewater.
15. Richard Hille. 34-5 Hen. VI (so headed: but it must be 35-6) 1456-7. Briggewater.
16. John Moleson. 36-7 Hen. VI, 1457-8. Briggewater.
17. John Barell. 38-9 Hen. VI, 1459-60. Briggewater.
18. John Russell. 6-7 Ed. IV, 1466-7. Briggewater.

(2). See *Historical Records Commission*, 3rd Report, Appendix, p. 312, by H. T. Riley, Esq., M.A., to whom my sincere obligations are due for many reasons, and especially in connection with this paper. Aileward’s account is not with the others, and I have been hitherto unable to find it. When I have quoted it, I have used memoranda made from MS. notes of Mr. Riley’s, which I had the privilege of seeing after his last visit to Bridgwater as Inspector of Historical Records. In the case of all the other documents I have carefully inspected the originals.



municipal purposes, (3) Dues paid for the freedom of the borough or of a guild, (4) Income from the port and harbour, whence we get some idea of the trade of the town. Then follow the items of expenditure, which scarcely admit of any definite arrangement. In one instance they are accurately divided, according to quarters or terms, viz., of our Lord's Nativity, of Easter, of Nativity of S. John Baptist, of S. Michael (Robt. Beaumont, 20 Henry VI); but in most cases there seems to be no attempt at date or classification, and repairs, fees, and hospitalities are noted probably just in the order of disbursement.

I propose to give a few extracts, first from the receipts, and then from the expenditure accounts, and shall attempt to rescue them from confusion, by following, in the case of the former, the rough fourfold division I have made; and with regard to the latter, by grouping together items that present some similarity or relation to each other. My object in making these extracts is, of course, to note those particulars which may best help us to think of the town as it was four and a half centuries ago.

(1). Receipts from property. Under this head we find such entries as the following:—"Received of John Hurdecombe for a tenement without the West Gate on the West side of the West *Wayre*" (sometimes spelt *Wayhur*) "xvid." "Received for the *Shamelis*" (shambles) "this year, iis. viiid." "For a parcel of land in the street called the Wear late of John Hoggis iid." "Received of Moricia Cardemaker for a tenement near the bridge on the south side thereof, iiis. vid. Of Margaret Screvener" (again spelt Skryvenere) "and little Alice" (parva Alicia) "for a tenement, iiis. viiid." "Of William Ceddesey, iys." "Of Richard Smith for a chamber with one *traveys*, ivd." "William Sydenham for one garden" (pro uno gardino) "ouside the South gate." "Richard Hooper for one tenement near the great bridge." John Moleson (36 Henry VI) accounts for five shillings "received for the *schrudes* of the trees growing upon the town-ditch, sold to John Parker this year." They did

not always produce so much, for another year we find, "From Robert A Banke for the *shroudyng* of divers trees upon the common foss, *xiid.*"

(2). Sums received for special purposes. We place under this head many entries having reference to the building and completion of the West Gate—a work which appears to have been kept about a long time. Some receipts are for the church, *e.g.*, "ivs. reed. of Wm. Atwelle for moneys arising from the collection in the road (or street) without the West Gate of the town aforesaid, upon the old tallage granted for the church and the maintenance of the building thereof."

(3). Dues received for the freedom of guilds or trades. Thus (22 Henry VI), "viis. vid. received of Richard Cloptone for having the freedom of the guild." "From John Eremyte for his fine upon having his freedom, viiis." "From John Eleys, smith, for having his freedom, ivs." "*xiid.* received of Richard Forde, *corviser*" (cobbler) "for following his craft this year." The following entry is rather curious in this connection—"Received of Wm. Smith for having the freedom *in le yle*, viis." (? freedom to appropriate a seat in the aisle of the church). I find only one instance of a fine in the ordinary sense. "For wepon drawe ayenst the peace, *ixd.*"

(4). Income from the port and its appliances, generally entered under the heads of Moorage, Plancage, the Bushell, and the Crane. One or two samples will suffice:—1397. "For xxxviiiis. received as profits for the cord and skids" (*Skediis*—gangboards for rolling or sliding heavy goods) "in drawing wine and other things during the time of the account, by tally against the porters" (per tall contra les portours). 1399. "Issues of the water xviiiis. *xid.* received for moorage, plancage, and the bushell during the time accounted for, and livs. vii<sup>id</sup>. received for the common cord and *Skedys*. Received of the *bere-men*" (porters) "of the crane ixs. *iiid.* For the mooring of divers boats and picards" (batell : et picard :) "*xvd.*"

When we turn to disbursements, we find a large expenditure

in repairs, and a considerable outlay upon the common cord, the bushell, and the crane. Thus we have, in 1397, "Paid for cleaning the common cord *vd.* For two skids with the making *iis. iiid.* For two new cords for the commonalty *xxs.* For one new *hausour* bought for drawing wine and other merchandise *xiis. ivd.* For payment made to John Hill, carpenter, hired by the task to make a timber-way to draw wine and stone from the boats to land, *ivs.* For midday drink" (*potus meridianus*) "bought for the same carpenter while engaged in the work, *vd.*" So again we have an elm bought "to be cut into four new planks, *iis. iid.*" We find payments "to Henry Roper of Taunton for one *slengge* weighing 38 lbs. of hemp, *ivs. id.*," and for "shetying the slengis" (fitting the slings); for "a *poleyn* for the crane, *ivd.*, and a *lagge* bought to support the crane when taken down and put up, *id.*," and for "the making of *gymyows*<sup>3</sup> and *happse* for the crane." Another curious word occurs in connection with the crane:—"Paid for two *fraccuns* bought for the *polys*, *xxd.*" (wheels or blocks, I suppose, for the pullies.) The said crane consumes large quantities of *talgh*, *talugh*, or *talow*—an item occasionally further varied, as when Hurdecombe enters "swynesgrece pro le crane," and Parys "pro pinguedine empt: pro la crane." There is an outlay every now and then upon the bushell, as well as upon the cord and crane, *e.g.*, for binding it with four *clamps* of iron. We have, moreover, particulars of a new bushell, "In a busschell the tre, *ixd.* In yre to the same buschelle, *viid. ob. (½d.)*. In the makyng, *vd. ob.*" Another municipal expense is more singular—"In togam phistolat:" (*i.e.*, fistulatoris, For the piper's gown) "*viis. ixd.*"

We come next to repairs of public buildings and corporation-property. In the earliest of these documents we find this entry, "Delivered to Richard Ermyte for mending the South bridge

(3). Mr. Riley says, "more commonly *gemnews*, clasps or double hooks." I find *gimmow* and *jimmers* used in *O.E.* for *hinges*, and "a pair of gimmisses" is still used here in that sense. A derivation from *jumeaux* is of course justified by either meaning.

called Lymbrugge on two occasions, viiis. vid." Also some work done by Nicholas Pridie, followed by "For two *nuncheons* for the said Nicholas and his lad," (Pro ii noucheynchis ad die Nich et parvul sūm). The word occurs again, with the spelling *nonechenche*, which favours a derivation suggested by Mr. Riley, i.e., *noonquench* ; in fact the *potus meridianus*, of which we have already found mention. Luncheon or lunch is quite unknown to our older writers, while *nuncheon* or *nunchion* is not infrequent. Such provision for workmen appears to have been quite usual : we have in the same account (Smok), "For beverage at various times for Richard Plomere when covering the church, ivd.;" and many later instances, e.g. (Barell), "Item iv mennes mete ii deysis, xvid. Item, John Doget is mete a dey, iid.;" and (Hanford), "Paid to divers *waynemen*, namely four waynes and eight men, for their victuals" (pro eor. vittual.) "xivd., . . . for their breakfast in the morning" (pro *jantaclo* eor. in mane) "vd." The South Bridge and the West Gate occur frequently, e.g., "For expenses of divers men hired to mend the South Bridge, iis. For stone bought at Wembdon for mending the West Gate, with carriage of the same and of sand, xviid." (1397). The houses of the corporation tenants constantly need repairs, e.g., "For bordys to make hacchis" (doors) "to the tenauntrye, vid. For twystes to the hacchis" (hinges to the doors), "xiid." One particular house on the bridge seems to have been a continual drain upon the municipal revenues. It reappears perpetually :—"For dawbyng and mendyng the house at Brigge, id." Again, "For dabbing and spikyng the tenement on the bridge, iis." Again, "For dabbyng of the howsyn a pon the burge, id." Again, "For reparacion of the howse apone the burge—for spekis and yerdis, vid." John Russell (6 Edward IV), the last of the bailiffs whose accounts appear in these rolls, seems to have tried vigorous measures; he charges, "For my own labour in the repairs of the tenement upon the bridge on divers days, vid." The official Latin constantly breaks down over the household details ; and we read, "Pro emendacione de



la locke, *id.* Pro uno locke et twyste et le ryngge, *vid.*" And again, "Librat : clokkemakyer, *iiii*l*i. xs.*"

I will quote only two or three more items under this head :— "For the repair of the Almyshouse without the West Gate, *xs. xd.*" "For the baryng of stones fro the key, *ivd.* For ledyng of ffaketys" (fagots) "to the Lymeburge, *vd.* For making a botte of yre for the Sowthe yate, *iid.* Item, for ii scheners" (?) "and mendyng of the polys, *xid.*" (Barrell.) Here is, apparently, a new public work :—"For makyng of the bole-rynge and the stapylle, *iiid.*"

We come across some notices of the acquisition of property ; for example, "Paid to the wife of John Fortescue for the great tenement in which John dwelt, *xxvis. viiid.*" But here is a better bargain, though accompanied by circumstances which might indicate that an unfair advantage was taken of the vendor, "For wine given to John Powlet for his tenement called La Warte, *viii*d*.* For oysters given him at Polys, *iis. ivd.*" (Pole was a scrivener.) "For writing of the evidences of the said tenement, paid to John Pole, *iis.*"—(a large conveyancer's fee, in proportion to the consideration given for the property !) "For wax for sealing the evidences aforesaid, *iiid.*" (This tenement is the subject of one of the exhibited documents.)

The payment and entertainment of the borough's representatives in Parliament furnish numerous items, of which a few will suffice :—"For *xxs.* paid to John Cole for Parliament this year." "Paid to John Mancell and W. Warde being burgesses to Parliament for the town aforesaid, *xls.*" "*vid.* paid for wine bought and given to John Palmer coming to the town after Parliament, in presence of the Seneschal and other merchants then present ;" the same again for "John Palmer, when he comes to the town before Parliament." The Bridgwater burgesses appear to have been very hospitable, and from the fact that this was very largely a wine port, a present of wine was the natural form of municipal courtesy. There was a large trade, not only with the South of France, but with Spain, a fact



to which Mr. Riley drew my attention, as explaining how it happened that a pilgrim desiring to visit the shrine of St. Jago, at Compostella, came to take ship at Bridgwater. All outlay in hospitality is usually set down under the heading of *Wine and other expenses*; there is a striking exception to this practice, however, in the earliest account, where we read, "Paid to Richard Baker *iiis. ivd.* for *bread* bought at the time when Lord de Zouche, lord of the town, was here." The following extracts will show the general character of these entries:—"Wine bought at the time when Ric. Sydenham was present in the house of Wm. Erich, *xvid.*" "*iiis. viiid.* for four gallons of wine bought and given to Thomas Mortimer." "*xviiis.* paid for wine bought and given to the Archbishop this year;" (followed by *xs.* paid for oats bought and given to the same Archbishop). "Wine given to Sir Baldwin Malet, Knight, William Stapleton, and Peter Courtenay." Again (1441), "Paid upon the eve of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary for wine given to, and other expenses incurred upon Edward Hall, Alexander Hody, and other counsellors of the town, *ixs.*" (A. Hody was standing counsel to the commonalty, at a yearly fee of 13s. 4d.) "Paid to David Baker for three gallons and a pottle of red wine, one pottle of Malmesyn, and three gallons of red wine delivered to William Lord de Botreaux, one quart of Malmesyn, and one pottle of white wine, making in the whole *vis. ivd.*" (This was the last Lord de Botreaux, killed at St. Albans, 1462.)

Entries like the following recur with little variation from year to year:—"Paid for a gallon of wine for the master of the Hospital<sup>4</sup> and the convent on the Feast of Corpus Christi, *viiid.* For two gallons of wine delivered to the Friars Minors<sup>5</sup> at the said feast, *xvid.* Paid for two gallons and one pottle of wine delivered to the aforesaid master of the Hospital and Alexander Hody in the vestry of the Church, *xxd.* Item, for bread, *1d.*"

(4). Hospital of S. John the Baptist.

(5). Friars Minors of S. Augustine, from whom Friarn, formerly Freryn, Street takes its name.

(Does not this recall a certain account found upon the person of Sir John Falstaff, which provoked the exclamation, "O monstrous! But one (half) penny-worth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack!") You will note that the Vicar is not mentioned on these occasions; I fear that then, as generally, the Regular clergy fared better than "the pore Persoun of a toun." I can only find here and there a wholly unconnected entry of "a pottle of wine for Sir Vicar, *ivd.*" which has a very shabby look.

Alexander Hody reciprocates the hospitality of Corpus Christi day, as the following entries show:—"Paid to John Pole for wine bought and consumed upon a buck of *venose* being presented to the commonalty of the town by Alexander Hody, *viis. ivd.* Paid for *floure* and spices for the same commonalty, *viiiid.* Paid to John Bercom as a reward for the man who bought that venison to Briggewater, *xxd.* Paid to Wm. Coke for baking the same venison, *ivd.*"

We have another mention of a Corpus Christi festival from which I will quote, as it gives some idea of prices current:—"For two capons bought of Wm. Seymour, *iis.* For one goose, *vd.* For two *schildres* of mutton, *vd.* For *pepire* and *safure*, *iid.* For powder *sinomun*, *iiid.* For reward eve (given) to the Coke, *iiid.*" An adjoining entry refers to the ceremony of the day, "Reward to John Miller for collecting rods on the Feast of Corpus Christi, *ivd.*"

But of ecclesiastical matters we do not learn much from these documents; one would gladly know a little more of the occasions of such entries as the following:—"For making a *selde*" (shed) "in the churchyard upon the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary for the Abbot of Glastonbury, and other expenses, and bread and ale and other victuals, *viiiid.*" It is possible that this was one of the occasions upon which "the town was blessed." We find several references to this ceremony, some direct, others indirect, and merely mentioning the wine paid for on the occasion. Among the former the following may be quoted:—

“For the labour of John Paris, riding to Taunton for a prior for the blessing of the town, *xiid.*” Again, when the townspeople send further in the same cause, “For a reward given to a priest for naming a proctor at the Roman Curia, for the benediction of the town, *vis. viiid.*” I have mentioned expenses for wine, &c., on occasion of the blessing of the town ; it appears that the old inhabitants were inclined to be festive on much more uncongenial occasions, and liked solid refreshment even at a tax-gathering, as we find an entry “For bread, ale, and paper used at the hall on the collection of one fifteenth and one tenth for our Lord the King.” (There is a writ of 4 Richard II, ordering the collection of one-fifteenth and half a fifteenth, among the documents exhibited.)

There are two entries connected with the church to which I may call attention. (1). “Paid to Roger Betone for a case to keep in it the *elvett* silver” (*le elvett argent*) “for the church, *xviid.*” Mr. Riley suggests that this may be “money set by for planting *elvene* or elms near the church.” I have been trying to establish some connexion with *elmes*, or *elmesse*, alms, but without success. (2). “In wyne geve to Sir John Whelere when he made the *verdere*, *iiid.*” (Parker B.) This might be illustrated at length from the churchwarden’s accounts, to which I have not had time to refer during the compilation of this paper. The *verdere* was, I believe, a curtain which hung before a picture or relief representing the Resurrection ; beneath was the sepulchre, which was watched by men hired by the churchwardens for the purpose, from Good Friday until the morning of Easter Day, when the *verdere* was lifted, and the figure of the risen Christ displayed.

Returning to municipal matters, we find that there was the same difficulty then as now in clearing the channel and maintaining the banks of the river Parrett. Every year we have expenses, “Paid for dyking. Paid for dyking *ayene-ward*. Item, paid for thornes to the back” (thorns to protect the river bank and keep the mud together), “*ivs. vid.* Paid the cranemen

for digging away the *wose*" (ooze, or mud) "from the quay throughout the year, vis. viiid." "Pro fodicione de la wose ab keya," (sometimes spelt *caye*).

There are notices of maces, which, I fear, exist no longer among the corporation-plate. "Paid in the making of one *mase* that had been broken by John Tarrant, viiis. ivd." "Paid for making the common *mas*, viid." "Paid for silver for making the silver mace belonging to the town, vs. vid." . . . "to Thomas Goldsmyth, viis."

It was my intention to make some further remarks upon the language of these documents; but examples enough have been given to show the precarious manner in which the common bailiff, or rather the professional gentleman who received 3s. 4d. for writing his "parcels," balanced himself between Latin and the vernacular. The difficulty of maintaining a pure style under the circumstances must be admitted; and when a Cambridge bursar writes "Pro corda ad le whippe id."<sup>6</sup> it is no wonder that a contemporary burgess of Bridgwater should account "pro gravellynge le viam a fonte usque ad keyam," and "pro dimidio mille de lathnaille." It must however be confessed that our notary reaches a lower level when he speaks of the common ditch *without the West Gate* as "sine occidentalem portam!" .

These documents give us but little information as to contemporary English speech. A few curious or obsolete words have been noted in the foregoing extracts, and the list might be slightly extended. We have traces of a Somersetshire tongue in the spellings *burge*, *axith*, *happse*, *passelles*, &c.

(6). Historical MSS. Commission, 1st Report, p. 65.

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## The Banwell Charters.

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BY F. H. DICKINSON, M.A., F.S.A.

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THE Dean and Chapter were so obliging as to lend me their large Liber Albus last spring, and I made a rough abstract of the contents. For which, perhaps, or for a short account of the more remarkable things in it, room may be found in your transactions at a future time. I will merely remark now, in correction of my notice of this book in the volume of indexes, that I have found documents in it dated 1493, which bring down the transcription of it quite to the close of the 15th century. The most remarkable thing that I found was the following deed, relating to Banwell and Compton Bishop, and lands in the marsh and at Cheddar, attached to Banwell.

I lost no time in informing a friend of mine of my find, and mentioned several odd things about it which made me doubt its authenticity. I supplied him with a copy, and the following is an article in the *Saturday Review* which he wrote in consequence, and which is printed here with the permission of the editor.

After a reference to the sale of Combe, and to the article on that subject in our last volume of transactions, the article continues as follows :—

“ The present document is a grant of William the Conqueror, by which he confirms Banwell and some other lands in Somerset to Giso, Bishop of Wells. Banwell is well known to antiquaries for a fine church, and to palæontologists for its bone-caves. Along with Congresbury, it formed a possession which Cnut gave as a private estate to Dudoc, the Saxon Bishop of Wells, the predecessor of the Lotharingian Giso. Dudoc by his will left the lands to the see ; but his intention was hindered by Earl Harold. Giso, however, continued to claim them ; and it appears



from Domesday that, at the time of the Survey, Banwell, though not Congresbury, had been given to the see. This is the plain story, as it is told by Giso himself; in the hands of later writers it has grown into various wild fables about Harold despoiling the see, driving away the canons, and what not. But it is plain from Giso's own narrative—our only authority—that Harold took nothing from the see which the see had ever possessed, but merely hindered the carrying out of Dudoc's will. The presumption therefore is that Harold acted on some legal claim; as, for instance, that the Saxon Bishop, being a foreigner, could not make a will, but that his property went to the King or to the Earl. That this was the ground is a mere possible conjecture; but it is certain that such a claim would have been good in law in some places both of England and of the Continent. However this may be, we learn from Giso's own story that he never gave up his claim to the disputed lands, and Domesday shows that, with regard to Banwell, his claim in the end succeeded. It is singular, however, that Giso himself says nothing about the grant of Banwell, though he does record how he obtained from William the possession of Winesham, with which Harold had nothing to do, but which was kept from the see by another person, one Ælfsige. However, the Domesday entry is enough for the fact, and now we have the deed which shows the time and circumstances of the fact.

“In judging of the genuineness or spuriousness of a document of this kind, a study of the signatures is one of the most important points. Can the persons whose signatures are added to the document have ever met? It does not affect the genuineness of the signatures if some of the witnesses are described by titles which they did not bear at the alleged date of the writing, but which they did bear afterwards. It often happened that merely the name was written at the time, and that the description was added afterwards as a kind of gloss. In an original such an addition might be detected by the difference of ink or handwriting; in a copy there would be of course no difference

between the original writing and the gloss. In this case, however, we need not apply this argument. If we look through the signatures, it is easy to see that the persons who sign it could very well have met at one particular time, though they could not have met at any other time, earlier or later. The deed is signed by King William, Queen Matilda, the Archbishops Stigand and Ealdred, the Bishops Odo (Bayeux), Hugh (Lisieux), Geoffrey (Coutances), Hermann (Sherborne), Leofric (Exeter), Æthelmær (Elmham—for this Bishop must be meant by the meaningless *Gilmeer*=Ægelmær), William (London), Egelric=Æthelric (Selsey), Walter (Hereford), and Remigius (Dorchester). There is another episcopal signature of "Wulfsig," which one can only suppose was meant for Wulfstan of Worcester. These bishops could not have met together before the Christmas of 1067, when Remigius was consecrated; they could not have met after the death of Ealdred in September 1069. But the only time when they could have met in the presence of Queen Matilda is between her coming to England for her coronation at Pentecost 1068, and her return to Normandy in the former half of 1069. The Earls ('Duces') who sign are William—that is, William Fitz-Osbern, Earl of Hereford—Waltheof, and Eadwine. After them follows 'Rotbertus frater regis;' that is, Robert Count of Mortain, lord of nearly all Cornwall, but who, as Professor Stubbs shows, was never Earl of it. Then comes 'Rotgerus princeps;' that is doubtless Roger of Montgomery, afterwards Earl of Shrewsbury. We have then the date fixed more narrowly again to a time when Waltheof and Eadwine were still Earls, when William Fitz-Osbern was already an Earl, but when Roger of Montgomery was not yet an Earl. The moment of Matilda's coronation exactly suits that state of things. William Fitz-Osbern was appointed Earl in 1067; Roger of Montgomery could not have been appointed Earl till later in 1068. At the time of the Queen's coronation neither Waltheof nor Eadwine had yet revolted; Eadwine was still Earl of the Mercians; Waltheof,

not yet Earl of the Northumbrians, was Earl of Northampton and Huntingdon. The meeting of these Bishops and these Earls, together with the Queen, is perfectly possible in the summer of 1068; it is not possible earlier or later.

“A kind of impulse leads the inquirer to look at the signatures first of all. But the document has a date. It was done ‘anno dominicæ incarnationis mill. lxxvii. Indict. vi.’ This date is impossible; the sixth year of the indiction is 1068, not 1067. The date is confirmed again by this kind of mistake, which forms an undesigned coincidence. We can hardly doubt that the real date in the original was ‘mill. lxxviii.’ and that the transcriber left out an i. This is much more likely than that he should turn v into vi.

“It is hardly possible that a forger should have drawn up a list of signatures which could stand so minute an examination as this. At the very least, he must have copied a real list of signatures attached to some genuine document. And for the purposes of general history it would be almost as important to know that these persons met at the time of Matilda’s coronation and signed anything, as to know they met and signed this particular grant of Banwell. But those whom we have mentioned are by no means the only persons who sign the grant, and the names and titles, together with the date, are highly instructive. The time is just after William had subdued the West, but while the North was still unconquered. The northern Earls were at his court, but their land and its people had not submitted. We see then that Giso came about William to get possession of Banwell almost as soon as William had power to do anything in Somerset. But this was not William’s first act on behalf of Giso. There is evidence to show that Winesham had been already restored. The writ of William restoring it will be found in the *Monasticon*, ii. 288. It is addressed ‘Ailnodo abbati et Tovi vicecomiti et omnibus baronibus [þegnas] Sumersetæ.’ That is to say, Winesham was held to be land unjustly retained by a private person; therefore the King sends a mere writ to the

Sheriff to have justice done. But Banwell had passed to the Crown, and its alienation needed the more solemn sanction of a Gemót. A writ would be sent off at once; the Banwell matter would be kept for the pentecostal Gemót. This does not explain why Giso does not mention his acquisition of Banwell; it does explain why he does not couple that acquisition with the recovery of Winesham. The date to which the document is fixed exactly agrees with the character of the signatures. We have mentioned those only which help to fix the date. But there are a crowd of others, Norman and English. In later documents of William's reign the English signatures die out. At this time, a year and a half after William's coronation, at a moment when no actual war was waging, when William really possessed only the southern and eastern part of the island, when he was in truth little more than King of the West-Saxons, the English signatures are naturally many. There are four English Abbots, and no Norman. Of these, Æthelnoth of Glastonbury was a person concerned, being addressed in the writ about Winesham. The description of the Earls as 'Dux' seems to point to an English scribe; a Norman would have used 'Comes,' and he would have added the title to Robert of Mortain, Count in Normandy, though not Earl in England. The description of Roger of Montgomery as 'princeps' is also English. He was a great man, but as yet he had no definite title. Tofig, the Sheriff of the shire concerned, signs with the English title of 'minister,' that is *thegn*. Among the Norman signatures, besides famous men like Walter Gifford—whose name is spelled in a very English way, *Gefeheard*—and Hugh of Montfort, we find 'Willelm de Curcello,' 'Serlo de Burca,' and 'Rotgerus Derundel,' all of whom appear in Domesday as landowners in Somerset. We have also, placed lower down in the list than we should have looked for him 'Richard filius regis,' which shows that William's young second son came to England with his mother. The chief Norman signatures come before the Englishmen, but some are mixed up with the Englishmen. This illustrates a law of



William, by which those Normans who had been naturalised under Edward counted as Englishmen. We thus find coupled together 'Bundi Stallere' and 'Rotbert Stallere.' The second, of course, is Edward's favourite Robert the son of Wymarc. The signature of Bondig shows that he kept his office under William; how long, we cannot tell. It may therefore help to support the genuineness of some Westminster writs in which he is also mentioned. And among the English signatures we have a good many local men whose names appear in the sale of Combe, and who are naturally called on to witness a document affecting their own shire. Such, beside the Sheriff Tofig, are Wulfweard, Herding, Adzor the seller of Combe, Brixi, and Brihtric, whether the obscure son of Dodda or the more famous son of Ælfgar.

"Here then we have in the summer of 1068 just such a set of signatures as we might look for in a document in the summer of 1068 affecting matters in Somerset. We turn to the body of the document, and we see in it something of the inflated style of the older Latin charters, while the style of William is characteristically made imperial—'Willelmus dei gracia tocius Brittanie monarches.' But one phrase follows which may be thought to go far against the genuineness of the document. Duduc makes the gift; 'Haroldus vero Rex cupiditate inflammatus abstulerat.' It is certainly not the manner of documents of William's reign to call Harold 'King;' and moreover Harold was not King at the time when the transaction, whatever we are to call it, happened. In itself this is ugly, but it is the only thing in the whole document which has anything suspicious about it. Is it then enough to make us set aside a document which has such a mass of curious and incidental evidence in its favour? Harold is certainly called King in one Westminster document attributed to William, but then it is a Westminster document. But even the compilers of Domesday, who so carefully describe Harold simply as Earl, have inadvertently let one entry stand where his rule is described by the word 'regnavit.' The English scribe may have risked the insertion of the title, and it may have



passed unnoticed in an assembly where the mass of those who could read or write were clearly Englishmen. There was as yet no subtle Lanfranc to spy out everything. Or again, we must remember that we are dealing not with the original, but with the copy. Was 'Rex' a gloss which the copyist transferred to the text? Was the original word 'Dux?' Did the translator get puzzled at it and turn it into 'Rex?' Any of these conjectures would seem more likely than that a forger should have been so preternaturally ingenious as to invent or light upon a set of signatures which exactly suit a short time of a few months, and which suit no time earlier or later.

"As usual, the body of the document is in Latin; the heading and the boundaries are in English. The boundaries are, of course, of high local, but only of local, interest. The grant itself certainly helps to give us a clearer notion of the state of things at a time less than two years after King William came into England. The process of confiscation of Englishmen's lands and of removal of Englishmen from their offices, which went on bit by bit through all William's reign, is as yet at an early stage. There is already one Norman Earl, one Norman Bishop; but no English Earl or Bishop has yet been removed from his post. A crowd of Englishmen of lower rank still hold a position high enough to be summoned to the Assembly and invited to sign its acts. In short, at Whitsuntide 1068, the Court of William was still more English than Norman. This one document, in itself of only local importance, sets all this before us; it lets us see more clearly than recorded history enables us to see who were the men, Norman and English, who stood by when Matilda the Lady was hallowed to Queen."<sup>1</sup>

The following is a copy of the charter, fol. 246. v.

"Ðis is ðære xxx hyda boc æt Banawelle þe Willhelm

(1). The Cottonian MS. Vitellius E. xii. at fol. 159, contains a litany with music, which appears to have been used at the coronation of Matilda. The book is cotemporaneous, and other parts of it belonged to the cathedral monastery of Winchester.

cýng gebocade Sancto Andrea apostolo in to þam biscoprice æt pelle a on ece yrfe.

“‡ Regnante imperpetuum domino nostro Jesu Christo Ego Willelmus dei gracia tocius Brittanie monarches antecessorum meorum catholice et apostolice fidei integritatem colencium imitatus vestigia earum rerum que in hac convalle lacrimarum possidere videor datorem meum Jesum Christum participem facere proposui et ex terrenis atque temporalibus celestia et eterna ab eo commutare. Pulsatus quoque piis precibus Gisonis episcopi xxx mansus in loco qui a solicolis Banawelle dicitur quos antecessor ejus Dodoco episcopus pro anima sua Deo contulerat. Haroldus vero rex cupiditate inflammatus abstulerat. Sancto Andree Apostolo ad augendum ecclesiastice dignitatis commodum in proprium dominium episcopalis sedis et in sustentacionem fratrum Wellensis ecclesie in perpetuam libertatem restituo cum omnibus ad se pertinentibus id est silvis campis pratis piscuariis pro me et pro anima patris mei et pro antecessoris mei Edwardi Regis et pro omnibus mihi fideliter adherentibus. Hoc vero largitatis mee munus ab omni fiscali vectigalique jure absolvo tribus tantum exceptis expedicione pontis et arcis edificacione. Si quis hoc custodire et augere voluerit augeat ei Deus presencia bona et celestia gaudia consequatur. Siquis (f. 247.) vero quod non opto instigante Diabolo hoc frangere vel minuere ausus fuerit dispereat de terra memoria ejus et nomen ejus deleatur de libro vivencium.

“Termini vero predictæ terre hi sunt.<sup>2</sup>

✠ “Ðis syndan þa land gemæro æt Banawelle. Ærest æt hylsbrokes ea willme east on þone cumb eall abutan losa leh swa west on þone cumb & swa west of ðam cumbe to bibricge. of bibricge into ture broc. of ture broke into locxs of loxs into bridewell to pantes hyd ford. to fule welle ut on þone mære of ðam mære on ealden wrinn into catt widige up ford be cýng

(2). In Liber Albus there is confusion between *d* and *ð*, and it is thought best to follow Mr. Earle's advice and attempt to correct, and in doubtful cases read *d*.

roda aest in þone wrinnæst<sup>d</sup> streame ford. þat hit cymð in þone hyls broc up þat it cymð æst inne þa eaa willme

✠ Ðis syndan þa land gemæru into Cumbtune Ærest on hryges torr of hrygestorre east on þone smalen weg &lang<sup>3</sup> wæges on ealmes feald eastwearde swa &lang wæges on þone scyte swa on þone norderinna weg on þa stygela & swa &lang wegges on cearce rode of þære rode on ufe wearde calewen swa rihte nyðer on þa sand scapas þone rihte on þone holan weg &lang wæges on ceole broc &lang broces ut on reod ræwe on axa to wæde wær swa &lang eaa to wiht hyrste of ðære hyrste on þa blindan ea. swa æst on axa &lang streames on loxan &lang loxan up on cyrces gemæro & on bertunes gemæru swa up ofer duna est on hricges torr.

“And æt hiwisc þæra v hida c æcere mæde be suðan heawican & et ceoddor mynster viiii. heordas & þ gemena land uf bufen melc wæge & eall seo wyrð on sundran & se wudu of ðam forde up andlang ceodder cumbes on hean næss. of ðam næse on þa gemær ac on eadbrihtes cumbe andlang cumbes æst þ hit cymð ut on þone feld

“Ut autem que agimus per posteritates sibi succedentes rata et inviolata queant esse Anno dominice Incarnacionis Mill lx. vii. Indict. vi hac privilegii confirmamus kartula que apocrifas quaslibet vel anteriores si que huic forte non consenserint irritas faciat esse et multorum testium quorum consilio hec sunt diffinita subter annectimus nomina. Si quis hoc mee parvitatatis dono Deum sanctumque Andream spoliaverit inremediabili percussus anathemate eterne dampnacioni subjaceat + Ego Willhelmus rex Anglorum crucis titulo meam confirmo donacionem + Ego Mathyld regina eodem signo adhibeo confirmacionem + Ego Stigandus archiepiscopus consensi et subscripsi + Ego Aldrædus archiepiscopus confirmavi + Ego Odo episcopus frater Regis conroboravi (f. 247. v.) + Ego Hugo episcopus consolidavi + Ego Goffrid episcopus consignavi

(3). Andlang is always written incorrectly as two words.

+ Ego Heremannus episcopus consensi  
 + Ego Leofricus episcopus non renui  
 + Ego Gilmaer episcopus annui  
 + Ego Willhelmus episcopus laudavi  
 + Ego Egelricus episcopus confirmo  
 + Ego Walterus episcopus favi  
 + Ego Wulfsig episcopus confirmavi  
 + Ego Remigius episcopus consignavi  
 + Ego Æpelnod abbas + Ego Leofweard abbas + Ego Wulfpold  
 abbas + Ego Wulfgeat abbas + Ego Willhelmus dux + Ego  
 Palpeof dux + Ego Eadpine dux + Ego Rotbertus frater regis  
 + Ego Rotgerus princeps + Ego Walterus Gefeheard + Ego Hugo  
 De muntforz + Ego Willhelm de curcello + Ego Serlo de burca  
 + Ego Rotgerus Derundel + Ego Richard filius regis + Ego  
 Waldtere fleminc + Ego Rambriht flæminc + Ego þurstan  
 + Ego Balduinus de parten beige + Ego Othelheard + Ego Hei-  
 mericus + Ego Toug minister + Ego Dinni + Ego Ælfge arde  
 thorne + Ego Willhelm de palvile + Ego Bundi stallere + Ego  
 Rotbert stallere + Ego Rotbert de ylie + Ego Rogerus pincerna  
 + Ego Wulfpeardus + Ego Herding + Ego Adzor + Ego Brix  
 + Ego Brihtric."

Besides the things mentioned in the article, it is odd that the canons of Wells should be called *Fratres*, and that so much should be said about posterity, and a hint given that there were spurious charters nearly to the same effect as this. Such things are more likely to be in a spurious charter than a real one.

But even if not genuine the charter is early, and the boundaries contain curious matters of local history.

I have first to explain about Compton Bishop. There is a charter in Kemble's *Codex*, vol iii, p. 137, which is probably spurious, but is not late. It states that Edgar renewed the liberty of Taunton, which had been granted to the Bishop of Winchester by his predecessors, for 200 mancuses of gold, and 50 more given to his wife Ælfdryða, and a silver cup weighing 5 pounds, and that long ago 60 hides had been given to King



Edward for the liberty, whereof 10 were at Cumbtune and 20 at Banwylle. The charter of Edward is given—vol. v, p. 157, dated 904, and not marked as spurious,—and it says the same thing. Another charter of Edgar, which appears to be genuine, at p. 143 of vol. iii, mentions the same bargain, and makes Banwell contain thirty hides, and says nothing of Compton. It is plain, therefore, that Compton Bishop was considered part of Banwell. It also appears from the deed we are now considering that of the ten hides to be allotted to Compton, five were at Huish, near Highbridge, which is now part of Burnham. The assessment of moveables of the 1st year of Edward III rates Banwell at 38s. 1*d.*, Compton at 42s. 10*d.*, and the free manor of Hiwische juxta altum pontem at 20s., Burnham paying besides 46s. 6*d.* Puxton, which was then part of Banwell, is not mentioned.

Collinson is wrong, therefore, in identifying (vol. iii, p. 582) Compton Bishop as the two Contunes held by Walter de Dowai. Possibly these manors, and another Contune held by Serlo de Burci, are Compton Martin and Ubley, and perhaps Eluuacre and Euuacre, who held them in the time of Edward, were the same person. The parishes are both in Chewton hundred.

In the older Liber Albus of the Wells Chapter, at folio 26, is a long document of Bishop Robert, dated 1159, which makes what remains of the estate at Huish into a prebend; it was then only one hide, and it is stated to have been of old a member of the Bishops Manor of Banwell. Some of the recitals are curious, and seem to show that Church property was dealt with in a very careless manner in the century after the conquest. "This property, as we have learnt from old people, and have seen ourselves, has by the bounty of our predecessors been given over into the power and possession of various persons, as well lay as clerics, among whom we remember Master Walter de Moretania, whom we found possessing Hiwis when we were called to the Bishopric, after whom Master Alured, through our gift, and then Master Richard of Montacute obtained it. And because we have seen



and heard that the said Hiwis has come into the power and possession of many persons, as we said before, without any certain title ; for these reasons, therefore, fearing that it might be given over into the possession of the laity altogether, through the pressure perhaps of the requests of those, whose prayers for the most part have the effect of commands, or through our carelessness, which God forbid, or that of our successors, we have determined to set it apart altogether to holy purposes, from which it may never be separated, and therefore at the request and with the advice of our clergy we have determined to make it a perpetual prebend of our Church of St. Andrew." This prebend was afterwards united to that of Brent, and both to the arch-deaconry of Wells. And I fear that now, at last, the Bishop's wishes for the preservation of the property to the Church have been wholly frustrated, and it has gone with the other prebendal property into the hands of laics. The late Mr. Hugo has given a short abstract of this deed from Hutton's very interesting and useful collections in the Harleian library in our *Transactions*, volume ix. part ii. p. 5, and he makes the acute remark that the name Huish indicates that the estate consisted of but one hyde, following I suppose the "ancient laws, &c." (vol. i. p. 186),—a view which is strengthened by the fact that this name occurs so frequently in our county as if it were a homestead added to or distinguished from some larger district. In this charter, however, it is plainly stated that there are five hides at Huish. If there were five it is curious that four of them should have got into lay hands in less than 100 years, and any one who looks at the map may feel a doubt whether there is room for five hides between Highbridge and Burnham. I think it due to the memory of Mr. Hugo to give his remark, and state the difficulty which perhaps it solves.

Afterwards, at folio 27, Joscelin, in 1228, grants to Helias, canon of the prebend of Cumtun, and his successors, that the land of Hiwis, in Brent Marsh, which was formerly a member of our manor of Banwell, should be free of suit to Banwell hundred.

Here perhaps we have another portion of the estate at Hewish accounted for.

The following is a translation of the boundaries of Banwell : These are the boundaries at Banwell. First at Hillbrook water-source. (This brook, as will be seen afterwards, was the eastern boundary of Banwell from the hill to the River Yeo, following the water-course marked in the maps as the Bale Yeo. It rises now in Rowberrow or Shipham, but Mr. Llewellyn tells me that there are indications of springs between the turnpike road and the railway, on the present boundary of Banwell, and larger springs higher up on the boundary of Shipham and Winscombe. The former springs must be those which are mentioned here as the source) —east to the combe, all about looseley, so west to the combe and so west from the combe to Biberrow,<sup>5</sup> from Biberrow to Tower brook (this cannot be the place marked Tower Head in the maps). From Tower brook into Lox (this must be the brook which gives its name to Loxton, and is still the parish boundary for near a mile)<sup>6</sup> to Bridewell (Bridewell lane is still the parish boundary against Christon) to Panteshide Ford (or as Mr. Earle, who has kindly helped me with this translation, would give it, “to Panteshide forward to Foulwell”) to Foulwell out to the mær (the word means boundary, but seems to have some other signification here). To Old Wrinn to Catt Withy Upford or forward, by King’s Cross, east to the Wrinn’s eastward stream ford or forward. (The expression, Old Wrinn, shews that the River Yeo, which appears by the boundaries of Wrington to have had anciently the name of Wring—as might be expected from the name of the place,—had a disused channel; where this may have been is matter of guess-work, and it is the more puzzling, as I do not understand the boun-

(5). In the Mells boundaries (Kemble 6, 231) Tedbury, a very remarkable mound is Todanbrigge in the first line and Todanberghe in the last. It is very correctly called the muchel dich, and seems to remove any doubt about brigge meaning mound or barrow.

(6). There were two other Lox brooks near Bath, called perhaps after *laax*, a salmon.

daries after Bridewell Lane. The present boundary of Wick St. Lawrence, between the Yeo and the stream which flows from near Locking and Worle to Worspring is close by a place called Cross House. It is possible that this boundary may be in the place of the old disused water-course, and that Cross House may have been named from King's Cross. This boundary line is still the boundary of Banwell for a mile, and the brook from Locking and Worle, just mentioned, is also the boundary for nearly three miles on the west of the parish. It is probable therefore that the present outlet of the Yeo between Wick and Kingston Seamore is artificial, though older than the conquest. The chief difficulty in the way of this view is that it implies that West Huish, in Yatton, must have belonged to Banwell as well as Puxton. About Puxton there is no difficulty, and as Banwell, Puxton, and Yatton all belonged to the Bishop, it is conceivable that when Puxton was separated from Banwell an adjustment of the boundaries between the latter and Yatton was made also.) Until it comes to the Hill Brook; until it comes east to the water-source. (Here again it seems from the Wring to follow the Bale Yeo, and the stream which falls into it, to its head from which the boundary began. This, with some exceptions, is the present boundary of Banwell and Puxton on the east.)

With regard to Compton Bishop, Ridges Tor is plainly Crook Peak, and describes it admirably as the Tor at the end of the ridge of Wavering Down, along which the boundary runs from west to east, following the Small way to Scyte, which is the valley between Shutshelve Hill and Wavering Down, through which the Bristol road from Cross and the railroad pass. The road along this high ground, which was and is the boundary, is the Roman road from the mines at Charterhouse to the port at the mouth of the Axe. One would like to know the present name of the field on Wavering Down, which seems to have been Ealmes Field, or Elmfield. We then come to the northern way, up Shutshelve Hill, and the stile and the Church cross or possibly road, which cannot be that of Compton, but apparently is near

Axbridge, and then on Ufe Wearde Calewen, which Mr. Earle translates over Calewa, the latter being the name of a place. (I am tempted to translate the words to Over Weare Calvary, and to suppose they mean Weare Church Cross. Mr. Pooley, in his interesting and valuable work on the *Crosses of Somerset*, shews that this cross is raised high on several steps.) To the sand pits (Mr. Earle corrects sand seadas, changing *c* into *e*), the hollow way, chalk brook, and reed row, we come then to the Axe at the Wæde Wær, probably salmon wear, from which the parish of Weare takes its name. The modern boundary, and there is no reason to suppose it has been altered, crosses the low ground and the Axe from the west end of Axbridge to near Weare Church. We must suppose that the places just mentioned were on the one side of the river or the other, because the sand pits must be just under the high ground at some old bend of the river, and the chalk brook also, where the water has for ages laid down its white petrification—a thing common, as well as the name, in lias countries—and the hollow way also in the hill behind, and I incline to think they must be all south of the Axe. If it be objected to this, that we have no notice of the boundaries crossing the river, we may reply with Mr. Skey that the river would not be mentioned unless it were a boundary, which probably it was not. Then along the water course to Whitehurst, the white coppice; from thence to the Blind Water, and then again to Axe. There is a water-course, apparently old, because it is the boundary now between Compton and Weare at Cross, which is probably this Blind Water. The boundary of the parishes now agrees exactly with the description in the charter, if this is the case. Mr. Skey tells me he cannot make out that the Cross river was ever called Blindwater. He says there used to be a backwater of the Axe running through the house where the Bridgwater Road meets Knotting way, which was once a mill, and he is told that the backwater was called blind-river, and that a rhine marking the line of the old stream is now called the blind rhine. One is



disposed to think that "blind" is a local term for "disused." A glance at the map leads one also to think that the Cross river is modern, and if so it is very remarkable that for more than half a mile it follows the ancient boundary of the parish, and what was probably a disused watercourse.

The boundary afterwards, for nearly three miles, followed the course of the Axe and the Lox brook, just as it does now, to Cyrces Gemæro, which is the boundary of Christon, and Berton's Gemæru, which is that of Barton, all that remains to bring it up over the down east to Ridges Tor, from which it started.

After the Compton Bishop boundaries follows a reference—that is all—to the five hides at Hiwisc (Hewish, at Burnham), the Hundred Acre Mead at South Hay Wick, and to rights of common, as well as property, at Cheddar and boundaries there, which I cannot explain. And at Cheddar Minster nine Heordes,<sup>7</sup> and the common land up above Milkingway, and all the farm held in separate property, and the wood from the ford (what ford?) up along Cheddar Combe to the high point (or rock), from the point to the boundary oak at Eadbright's Combe, and along the combe east, until it came out on the field.

(7). The viii. has no tail to the last stoke, as is always given if it is a numeral. The writing of this part of Liber Albus is bad, and the copyist ignorant, and did his work much worse than the copyist of the Combe Charter. If the viiii. is a numeral I suppose the 9 Heordes or Heordas to be pasture in Cheddar pasture common for 9 beasts for the Bishop's people, perhaps his own, in the King's land there. The reference to the road "for to milky" at Cheddar is interesting.

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## Some Notes on the Geology of Otterhampton.

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BY THOS. WOODHOUSE, M.A.,  
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OTTERHAMPTON and its immediate neighbourhood have the unusual advantage of a great variety of strata and of situation, crowded together into so small a space that the little corner of land between the Quantock Hills, the Parret, and the Channel, is a sort of epitome of large tracts elsewhere. The surface is much broken and diversified, and there is abundant evidence of great geological disturbance in former ages, and also of further and more gradual changes which are still in progress.

Otterhampton itself, the Church, the Rectory, and the high ground to the south, and south-east, and west of them are all on the Lias. The Lias is quarried for lime opposite the corner of the lane which turns out of the Stoke Courcy road to go to Otterhampton, and also by the road-side between Stockland and Stoke Courcy. It is found in beds of blue and ochreous yellow intermixed and strongly contrasted with each other. It runs in a north-westerly direction until it meets the sea at Stolford, and forms rocky shoals there and at Wick Rocks, and low cliffs at Shurton Bars and Lilstock. Large fragments of it are frequent on the beach, in the form of heavy oval and rounded pebbles, which often contain ammonites of large size, although these are certainly very infrequent in the cliffs and quarries. For this there are probably two reasons; first, that these rolled and rounded pebbles come from a distance, and from strata more rich in fossils; and further, that the ammonites themselves have formed the nuclei of hard accretions, which have resisted the action of the waves and currents better than the rock in general does.

The soil on the Lias is a rich, stiff, tenacious clay, almost impervious to water, and singularly destitute of springs; although

there is one by the roadside at Otterhampton, between the Rectory and the Church, whence trickles a tiny rill, which seldom fails, and which is full of water-cresses, a sure sign of the clearness and purity of the water.

The strata of the Lias clearly show that they were deposited in deep and quiet seas ; and must therefore, of course, have once been horizontal. But they are now bent, twisted, distorted and inclined at all sorts of angles, and in all manner of directions. This is particularly observable on the flat reefs left bare at low water near Stolford ; which have been worn away by tides and storms, until we get a horizontal section of them of the most curious kind.

I do not know the total thickness of the Lias, but it is not great. In sinking a well a few years ago between Otterhampton and Combe, the Lias was pierced, and the well-sinkers came to the New Red Sandstone which lies beneath. In fact the Lias seems to form a mere crust, covering a narrow strip of country, and extending in a direction from south-east to north-west. It is a very useful kind of stone, furnishing not only lime, but building and paving stones, easily worked, and easily reached ; for the rock comes very near the surface everywhere, and sometimes almost rises into view.

A valley of deep alluvial soil extends along the south side of the Lias, and entirely conceals and covers up the rocks which intervene between it and the New Red of Cannington and the still older rocks of Cannington Park and the Quantocks. This valley is of no great width, and joins the broad valley of the Parret just at the south-east corner of Otterhampton parish. A rich level alluvial tract of pasture extends northwards to the channel and north-east to the narrow point of Steart, where the Parret enters the sea. This tract of alluvial soil seems to date from a period when our Somersetshire hills rose, as islets, out of a shallow sea. Even now the difference of level is very slight indeed ; and instances have been known when the sea has burst through the sea-wall and rapidly spread over the whole flat, close

up to the villages of Stockland and Otterhampton. The last instance that I have heard of was about fifty years ago, or rather less. An unusually high spring tide forced its way through, and the sheep and cattle, grazing in the meadows, were exposed to imminent danger. But none were lost; and as, providentially, it was a morning tide, and not an evening one, at nine a.m., instead of nine p.m., travellers could see their peril and escape it.

Even now the inroads of the sea are formidable. It is certainly encroaching, steadily and surely, and almost rapidly. Even within my own recollection of the neighbourhood, which only extends over twenty years, it has gained very considerably. Along the edge of the common, near Steart, there used to be a raised pebble beach, called the Chesil, of which very few traces remained even when I saw it last, which is now six years ago. Just at the end of the common, on the road to Steart, there used to be, when I knew the place first, not quite twenty years ago, a house—an inhabited house; a wretched place indeed, but still inhabited. There was a gate on the north of it, and a low stone wall beyond the gate. The road to Steart passed through this gate, with the house on its right hand. All this has long vanished. On the 30th and 31st of January, and 1st of February, 1869, a series of gales and high tides tore up the pavement and foundation of the house—which was already a ruin—strewn fragments of the wall along the beach, heaped up a shingle beach in what had once been the fireplace, and destroyed the road. The wide expanse of mud, from which the sea retires at every tide, and over which it returns again with such a swift approach and such a low, threatening roar, was probably at no distant date a tract of fertile land. In fact an old man told me, in 1869, that he well remembered a farm house, with its barton and buildings, far out to the north-west of Steart, once (like Virgil's Tenedos), "dives opum,"

*"Nunc tantum sinus et statio male fida carinis."*

Treacherous indeed to shipping that shore is, for the tides rise unusually high on this part of the coast, and the land is so low as not to be easily distinguished. I remember a vessel running ashore, in 1869 I think, very near the village of Steart, and her position clearly showed that those on board of her had supposed themselves to be in mid-channel, when they were actually standing right in upon the shore, and near the houses of the village.

These encroachments of the sea have swept away another spot, which was well known some sixty years ago. I have heard from old men that there was in those days an island of considerable size near the mouth of the river ; on which stood a house of entertainment, which drove a roaring trade in the days of high protective duties. Brandy and foreign wines could be "run" with ease and safety upon this island ; which, as being an island, was in some way or other exempt from the ordinary jurisdiction of the revenue officers. Now not only has the privilege itself been swept away, but also the place that enjoyed it. I am not sure whether this was the same island of which a small piece still remains, and is used (or was six or seven years ago,) as pasture for sheep. That island was once much larger, and had cornfields on it ; as I have been told by an old man who had in his youth helped to reap and carry the corn.

These encroachments of the sea, so recent, so extensive and so rapid, clearly show in my mind that the whole plain is gradually sinking. We know that the level of the sea cannot alter : it is the level of the land that alters ; and the earth which seems so solid is in fact far more variable than the sea, which has been taken as the very emblem of inconstancy.

There are, in my opinion, clear indications that a gradual depression in the whole coast line thereabouts is going on now, just as at some former period there had been a gradual elevation. The sections displayed by the action of the sea all along towards the point at Steart show successive layers of black alluvial soil and of shells ; shells not fossilized, but well preserved in their

natural state. These must have been deposited in the bottom of a shallow sea or lake. I suppose a conchologist could tell us whether the shells bespeak a salt water or fresh water origin. I am sorry I am not able to speak on this point.

As to the period at which this upheaval and subsequent depression took place, I venture to make a suggestion which has often been forced upon my mind as I have walked along the beach at Steart, viz., that they are much more recent than one might suppose. I think it quite possible that, in the days when the Danes landed on these shores, the river entered the sea by a more direct course than it does now, leaving Steart on its right bank, instead of its left. This would make Combe and Cannington much nearer to the sea, and much more accessible from it than they are now. If so, this would tend to confirm the conclusions arrived at by the Hon. and Right Rev. Prelate, in his most interesting, and to my mind convincing, paper on Alfred's great campaign. An upheaval of a few feet, almost of a few inches, may have diverted the stream : just as most certainly a depression of a very few feet would enable the river to make a new way for itself straight towards the sea, which the fierce rush of the tide would soon widen and deepen into a broad estuary. The Danish host would then have landed close to the first rising ground they came to, not more than two miles from the open channel. But however this may be, the change of coast line in recent times is plain matter of fact ; to which I trust the Society will excuse my drawing their attention, as it seems to me to deserve, and indeed to require careful observation.

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## Gaulden.

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BY E. CHISHOLM BATTEN, M.A.

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AT the request of the proprietor of Gaulden Farm, in the parish of Tolland, two Vice-Presidents<sup>1</sup> and a District Secretary of the Society visited it on a pleasant day at the end of September. It is occupied by the farm tenant, and neither he nor the proprietor could tell us anything of its history, save that the tenant asserted a room off the hall to have been a chapel, and certain devices upon the carved oak partition between it and the hall to be the initials I. T.

We had ascertained from the Society's *Transactions*, vol. ix., p. 29, that Gaveldon, in Tolland, was given by Andrew De Bovedon to Taunton Priory; that it became Gauldon in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, and was then a Manor with customary rents, services, and demesne lands, perquisites of courts and other casualties, bringing to the Priory £10 8s. 9d. net rent; that the possessions of Taunton Priory were surrendered to King Henry VIII on the 12th Feb., 1539, and that the Manor of Gaulden was granted to William Standysh, 36 Henry VIII (1544). Collinson told us that it belonged, 7 Elizabeth, to Francis Southwell, Esq.

The house is placed on a small piece of level ground half-way down the hill, at the bottom of which is Tolland water, and behind it, in an orchard, is a fishpond, with an artificial island in it, and a strong pond-head in good masonry, from which the overflow escapes by a stream into the Tolland water.

There is little in the house externally to attract attention. The front entrance, which is on the west side, is by an old-fashioned lintelled porch, with a story over it, and opens into a

(1). Mr. Welman and Mr. Surtees, to whom, and to Mr. Henry Welman, the Society is indebted for decyphering the devices and mottoes, and revising and verifying the description of the house and hall.

passage running through to the garden and orchard behind ; on the right is the hall, a very curious apartment. It has a ceiling of panelled plaster with a very magnificent pendant, having eight ornamental flutings, in the centre ; it is more than 30 feet long and 15 feet wide, and has a foot-deep cornice all round the room, except over the fire-place and over the carved partition, which cornice is in plaster, with allegoric and emblematical figures and mottoes.

Beginning with the south-western corner, we have in the midst of great ornamentation,

The Temptation of Adam by Eve ;

Then an angel holding a shield with a dish with food in it, and a pair of spectacles above, having underneath the motto,

MIHI SPRETA VOLUPTAS.

Next, an angel-held shield, containing a mirror and a circle, its motto is,

CONSILIIS RERUM SPECULOR.

Then, a man in armour, holding a shield, on which is a pair of scales ; its motto,

SUA CUIQUE MINISTRO,

Next comes a shield with a castle, having for motto,

ME DOLOR ATQUE METUS FUGIUNT.

Beyond this, the Virgin and Child, and the roses of York and Lancaster. Then is the motto,

EX HOC MOMENTO ÆTERNITAS PENDET.

Next, on the north wall are two figures—a man apparently giving a cloak to a poor man or monk. Further on, a representation of Herodias' daughter bringing John the Baptist's head to Herod, with the decapitated body in the background, and the motto,

REGNUM PRO SALTU.

North-east, and on the side of the fire-place, a nondescript animal,—a dragon with a lion's head, and the motto,

TERRA SERPIT, AQUIS NATAT, AERE VOLAT.

On the ceiling are two circular panels, with wreath borders, and

the large pendant between them. In one of the panels a human skeleton lying down, and over it an angel blowing a trumpet and the motto,

SURGITE MORTUI ET VENITE AD JUDICIUM ;

in the other panel King David with his harp, and the motto,

NABLIO ET CITHARA LAUDATE DEUM.

The chimney-piece has over it in plaster four shields of arms :

1. Ermine, a lion rampant crowned, crest, a castle.
2. The same impaling fretty.
3. The same impaling three lions passant.
4. The same impaling on a bend three chevronels.

There is also in plaster the motto,

LA FAMILLE DES JUSTES DEMEURERA.

On the boldly-cut stone string moulding of the lintel over the fire-place,

**F**ocus perennis esto.

To the left of the fire-place, between it and the square-headed and stone-mullioned window, is the oak partition, panelled and carved, surmounted by a modern plaster partition between it and the ceiling, and over the door in it the initials I. T. Inside the partition is a room which the farmer called the chapel, apparently an ordinary parlour or with-drawing room, with nothing ecclesiastic in its arrangements. The property, we were told, had been in the proprietor's family for a century and more.

Armorial bearings often furnish the key to unlock the history of a place, and a little research discovered the arms, that are above the chimney piece in the hall, to be those of the Turbervilles of Bere Regis, Co. Dorset. *Ermine, a lion rampant crowned gules, crest, a castle argent.* Sir Richard Turberville of Bere, Knt., ob. 36 Edw. III (1363), married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Thomas Norris, whose arms seem to be *quarterly gu. and arg., first and fourth quarters fretty or.* Sir Richard's coat is that on shield No. 2. Sir Robert Turberville, Knt., ob. 5 Henry VI (1424), married Margaret, sister of Richard Lord Carew of Beddington, Co. Surrey, whose arms were *or, 3 lions*

*passant, sa.*; Sir Robert's coat is that on shield No. 3. "These impaled coats were in the hall at Bere," says Hutchins,<sup>2</sup> "the names of the owners of the arms being placed over each impalement. At the upper end of the hall—1. Turberville impaling Norris. 2. Turberville impaling Carew, or., 3 lions passant. 3. Turberville impaling Toner"; but Hutchins does not state the arms of Norris or of Toner.<sup>3</sup>

The history of Gaulden Manor, from the date of its passing to William Standish in 1544, is accurately learnt from the Records. On the death of William Standish, 7 Edward VI, (1553) on an *Inquis. post mortem* the jury find that the Manor of Gaulden and other property in the parish of Tolland was granted by King Henry VIII to William Standish for life, with remainder to Francis Southwell and Alice his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, whom failing to the heirs of a certain John Mynne, Esq., probably connected with the Wyndhams.<sup>4</sup> Francis Southwell, therefore, as Collinson states, was probably seized of the Manor in 7 Elizabeth (1565), and upon the death of him and his wife, and the failure of their issue, we presume, it came to the Mynne family, for there is a Bill in Chancery addressed to Sir Christopher Hatton, Lord Chancellor, (and therefore after 1587), which states that George Mynne, gentleman, and Elizabeth, his wife, were seised in fee of the Manor of Gaulden, with all its members. Thus for half a century after the dissolution of Taunton Priory there is no connection of this manor with the family of Turberville, and there is some difficulty in accounting for the armorial bearings and ornamentations.

The tradition of the chapel and the initials I. T. suggest the explanation of the arms by assuming that this spot was the

(2). Ed. 1796, I. 9.

(3). The coat of Toner is not given in any of the ordinaries, though it seems to have been known to Hutchins. To the coat of "on a bend, 3 chevronels," are given the names of Hodiam and Englysvill, Co. Devon, in Papworth.

(4). See Wyndham impaling Mynne, Somersetshire Visit. 1623, Harl. MS. 1141.

retreat of James Turberville, the Bishop of Exeter, who was deprived by Queen Elizabeth.

Archbishop Heath of York, who was also deprived, was allowed to retire and live a private life at Chobham Park,<sup>5</sup> in Surrey, which had belonged to Chertsey Abbey. It is said<sup>6</sup> that he used the chapel that was in the house, and that he was so highly esteemed by Queen Elizabeth that she visited him once a year. She certainly visited him there in 1566.<sup>7</sup> "The Act, 1 Elizabeth, c. 2, operated," says Hallam,<sup>8</sup> "as an absolute interdiction of the catholic rites, however privately celebrated." But "the Government connived at the domestic exercise of them by some persons of very high rank, whom it was inexpedient to irritate." Among the persons of high rank whose domestic exercise of their religion was connived at must have been such of the deprived prelates as were allowed to live in an honourable and private retreat, for it would have been contradictory and insulting to allow a catholic prelate to live at ease, without allowing him the privilege of solemnizing the mass. Accordingly Queen Elizabeth, in answer to the letter from the Emperor Ferdinand, dated 24th Sept., 1563, asking for gentle treatment for the deprived bishops and a church for catholics in every city, in her reply of 3rd November, 1563, says, although denying them the right to have congregations and public assemblies, yet that at the request of so great a prince, she will bear the private insolence of a few by some connivance.<sup>9</sup>

(5). See his charming letter to Lord Burghley, State Papers Elizabeth, Dom. xcii, 20th Sep., 1573, from Chobham.

(6). Manning and Bray's *Surrey* iii, 193. Aubrey's *Surrey* (Ed. 1723), iii, 200, "At this house in Chobham Park was a consecrated Chapel, used by this truly Apostolical Archbishop until his death.

(7). Nichols' *Progresses of Q. Elizabeth*, i, 250.

(8). Hallam's *Constitutional History*, vol. i, p. 113, 11th ed.

(9). Strype's *Annals*, vol. 1, 24. The letters are in Appendix to vol. ii, D. and E. Strype gives the date of Ferdinand's letter as "*Possovia in Hungaria*," but the Queen correctly makes it "*Possonii*," that is Presburg on the Danube. The date is given in the Calendar, State Papers, Foreign, 1563, not by Strype.



The Queen did sanction Heath's use of the Chapel at Chobham; the only member of the Turberville family who would at this period absolutely require a Chapel or consecrated apartment would be the bishop, and we may conclude that the room, which is still called the Chapel, was the place set apart and consecrated in his retreat by Bishop Turberville for the solemn rites of his faith.

The conclusion that Bishop Turberville fitted up Gaulden is fortified by the motto in the hall, under the coat of Turberville. It is not the family motto, *Virtute acquiritur honos*, but *La famille des justes demeurera*; and Tyacke, in his *History of Exeter*,<sup>10</sup> gives as the motto of Bishop James Turberville, *La familla des justes deluerara*, which must be a misprint for the motto at Gaulden.

This motto is a translation from the Vulgate, Prov. xii, 7, *domus autem justorum permaneat*; in Le Maistre de Sacy's translation of the same passage, he has "la maison des justes demeurera." Bishop Turberville, after being Registrar of the University of Oxford, left it and took the degree of D.D. at another university, and was afterwards incorporated into Oxford with that degree. Neither Anthony A. Wood, nor his editor, Dr. Bliss, a successor to the bishop in the registrarship, tell us what university it was, and if it had been Cambridge or a Scottish university, it would have been specially mentioned. It is probable it was a foreign one, and while studying there he may have become familiar with a French version of the Vulgate.

Fuller, in his *Worthies of Dorsetshire*, says, "This Bishop Turberville carried something of trouble in his name, though nothing but mildness and meekness in his nature; hence it was that he staved off persecution from those in his jurisdiction, so that not so *many*, as properly may be called *some*, suffered in his diocese. He being deprived in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth, lived peaceably for many years in great liberty: the privacy of whose life caused the obscurity of his death and the uncertainty of the date thereof."

Certainly few spots could at this present time be found more calculated to ensure privacy than Gaulden, and in the first years of Elizabeth it must have been still more secluded. A century later a journey to Wiveliscombe from Barnstaple is described as through "terra incognita inhabitabilis."<sup>11</sup>

Fuller says, Bishop Turberville was first a monk and then, in 1514, Fellow of New College. Anthony A. Wood says he was educated at Wykeham's College at Winchester; but does not mention his being professed. But even the atmosphere and tone of Winchester School must, before 1514, have been not unlike that of a religious house, and the devices and adornment of the hall at Gaulden harmonize so well with the quaint spirit and grim humour of monkish carvings and mottoes, as to support the view that they were placed at Gaulden by one whose early education was such as that of Bishop Turberville.

Nor is this all—the exhibition of the armorial bearings of the Turberville family is just what might be expected from the Bishop.

Three descents from William Turberville, who impaled Toner, comes the bishop. William's son and heir, Richard, married a Bonham (arms, *gules, a chev. wavy bet, 3 crosses pateè fitchèè arg.*) Richard's son and heir, John, was the father of the Bishop, and married a Cheverell (arms, *arg. on a saltire, az., 5 water buckets of the first.*) The initials I. T. at Gaulden could not have been those of John Turberville, the Bishop's father, as he lived and died at Bere, and died in 1535, before the surrender of Gaulden Manor to the Crown; and after the death of John, neither in that nor in the next generation was there any other Turberville with the initials I. T. but the Bishop.

The Bishop was probably like his father, proud of his descent from Sir Richard Turberville and Sir Robert Turberville, whose arms are over the Gaulden chimney-piece. His father, in his will, makes his son the Bishop (then Doctor Turberville), one of the overseers of the will, and continues, "I desire my body to

(11). Warrington's *Journal*, Aug. 16, 1649, Chetham Society.

be buried in the church of Bere Regis, in my own yle, before the ymage of our blessed Ladie, in one of the tombs wherein Sir Richard Turberville or Sir Robert Turberville, mine ancestors, hath been buried in.”<sup>12</sup>

It would be very natural, then, that the Bishop should put up the arms of his great ancestors, Sir Richard and Sir Robert, over the chimney piece at Gaulden.

Let us now inquire how far the style of the devices and the moral of the mottoes in Gaulden Hall accord with a retrospect of the Bishop's career.

He was, probably at an early age, elected to his fellowship at New College, as he took his M.A. degree in 1521. Made Registrar of the University of Oxford in March, 1521, he resigned this office and his fellowship in 1529, when Wolsey was tottering to his fall, and was then, Wood says, promoted to an ecclesiastical benefice, and soon after to a dignity. Having taken the degree of D.D. as we have seen in a foreign university, he was incorporated in that degree at Oxford in 1532. In 1533 his father joined him in granting an annuity of 10 marks for Thomas Myntion, whose trustee was the Abbot of Bindon. This was perhaps a loan transaction to raise money to proceed to Court; for after this he must have been about the Court of Henry VIII. We know that his father was a warm supporter of Henry VII, and a month after the battle of Bosworth field received the offices for life of Constable of Corfe Castle, and Marshal of the King's household. Queen Elizabeth, who knew the antecedents of most men of note about her, in addressing Archbishop Heath and Bishops Bonner and Turberville, on 6th Dec., 1559, says, “Who, we pray, advised our father more or flattered him than you, good Mr. Hethe, when you were Bishop of Rochester? and than you Mr. Bonner, when you were Archdeacon? and you, Mr. Turberville?”<sup>13</sup>

(12). Orig. Will in Probate Registry, Somerset House. He directs the east window of his aisle in the said church of Bere to be newly made and newly glazed in such manner and form as his wife and overseers thought most convenient.

(13). Strype's *Annals*, vol. i. 147.

He was, after 1540, made a prebendary of the new Chapter of Winchester,<sup>14</sup> and in March, 1555, being such prebendary, he was elected Bishop of Exeter.

Heylin says he "recovered some lands unto his see which had been alienated from his predecessor (Harman), and amongst others the rich and goodly manors of Crediton, *alias* Kirton, in the county of Devon, in former times the episcopal seat of the Bishops of Exeter ;<sup>15</sup> a bough almost as big as all the rest of the body."<sup>16</sup>

Fuller<sup>17</sup> says, "In the Diocese of Exeter (containing Cornwall and Devonshire) I finde but one martyr, namely, Agnes Priest, condemned by William Staunford, then judge of the Assize at Launceston, but burned at Exeter. The tranquility of those parts is truly imputed<sup>18</sup> to the good temper of James Turberville

(14). The date of his installation is not in the register, according to Lord Clarendon, *History of Winchester Cathedral*, p. 119, but he is not likely to have been appointed by Edward VI, 1547—1553.

(15). The Manor of Crediton and Morchard Bishop was granted, in consequence of a letter from Edward VI (*Domestic Papers*, Edward VI), by Bishop Veysey, on 14th June, 1548, to Sir Thomas Darcy, in fee at a fee farm rent of £40 a year. It had been leased to Darcy, 7th April, 1546, for eighty years, at a rent of £165 16s. 8d. [Crediton, £146 4s. 11d. ; Morchard Bishop, £18 11s. 8d.] Edward VI obtained it from Darcy in exchange. Queen Mary, by letters patent, 8th June, 1554, granted Morchard Bishop to George Sydenham and — Beere, Esq., and by letters patent, 18th July, 1556, Philip and Mary granted the Manor of Crediton to our Bishop "*in augmentationem victus sui*," of the clear value of £143 0s. 10½d., beyond reprises of £11 16s. 10d., and subject to a fee farm rent of £146 8s. 3d. Indentures were at the same time executed by Lord Darcy and the Bishop, and among them (23rd July, 2 and 4 P. and M., 1556), bond for £800 to Bishop Turberville and his successors. On 6th April, 1667, administration was granted to Bishop Seth Ward, at Exeter House, in the Strand, of Bishop Turberville's effects, limited to this bond. [Acts. Prer. Cant. MS. Probate Registry, Somerset House, 1667.] The particulars of the dealings with the Manor of Crediton, and copies of many of the deeds, are among the Maynard MSS. in Lincoln's Inn Library.

(16). Tyacke's *Hist. of Exeter*, 3rd edition, 1730.

(17). *Church Hist. XVI. Cent.*, p. 13.

(18). Fuller refers to Holinshed. The reference is, in fact, to Hoker's account of the Bishops of Exeter, printed in Holinshed's *Elizabeth*, 4to edition iv, 424, "James Troblefield succeeded Bishop Voiseie, and was consecrated A.D. 1556. He was a gentleman born, and of a good house, very gentle and courteous, he professed divinitie, but most zealous in the Romish religion, yet nothing cruel or bloody."



the Bishop ; one as *gentilely* qualified, as extracted ; and not so cruel as to take away the lives from others, as careful to regain the lost livings of the Church ; and indeed he recovered to him and his successors, the fee farm of the manour of Crediton."

We have (2nd May, 1558), Grant of a special pardon to Bishop Turberville,<sup>19</sup> he having incurred a penalty of £100 on account of William Geyke, a clerk convict, having escaped from the prison of the Bishop at Exeter ; probably through the Bishop's leniency.

Agnes Priest, or Prest, suffered, Burnet says,<sup>20</sup> about the 4th November, 1558, when the Queen was declining fast. The Bishop had left Exeter and gone to London the preceding Michaelmas.<sup>21</sup> Foxe, who gives two accounts of this sufferer,<sup>22</sup> calls her "a silly creature," and Hoker "a guiltless, poore, seelie woman." Foxe details a dialogue between our Bishop and her, wherein he urges her to go home to her husband and children, and sets her at liberty as a crazy creature. She was indicted before the judge of assize at the assizes at Launceston, in the spring of 1556, and not punished till two years after ; she must have owed her respite to the Bishop's interference, and was cruelly executed while the Bishop was out of the way. Dr. Oliver suggests, after Fuller, that her death was procured by the violence of Dr. Blaxton, the Chancellor.

Dr. Turberville, with the other Bishops, met Queen Elizabeth on her entry into London in November, 1558 ; was in his place in the House of Lords, February, 1559 ; and at the Theological Conference at Whitehall on 2nd April, 1559.<sup>23</sup> He refused the Oath of Supremacy, with twelve other Bishops, on 15th May, 1559, but

(19). Letters Patent 4 and 5. Ph. and M. Calr. p. 100. Record Office.

(20). *Hist. of Reformation*, ii. 364.

(21). He held an ordination in the Church of Crediton, on 18th September, 1558, and immediately afterwards, according to Dr. Oliver, who examined the Bishop's register, went to London. The Doctor states that there is no entry in the register respecting Agnes Prest.

(22). Vol. iii, ed. 1684, p. 747 ; and again, p. 855. As to Dr. Blaxton, see Oliver (p. 137) and Strype, *Annals*, 1561.

(23). Strype's *Annals*, i, 88.



was not deprived till after 18th July, 1559,<sup>24</sup> but before the 16th November, 1559, when his spiritualities were seized by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. On the 4th of December, 1559, he, with Heath of York, Bonner of London, Bourne of Bath and Wells, and Poole of Peterborough, wrote the letter to Queen Elizabeth which she answered as above. He continued, apparently, in or near London till June, 1560, when, on account of some open demonstrations of some of the Marian prelates, he, and five others of them,<sup>25</sup> with Dr. Boxall and Abbot Feckenham, were committed to the Tower.

Dr. Boxall, formerly secretary to Queen Mary, Bishop Bourne, and Bishop Turberville, were sent to the Tower on 8th June, 1560. The prisoners, though kept asunder, were permitted to come together at their meals, by virtue of a letter of the Council to the Archbishop, at two tables; and for one table were Bishop Thirlby of Ely, Bishop Bourne of Bath and Wells, Bishop Watson of Lincoln,<sup>26</sup> and our Bishop. His successor, Dr. Alley, in whose favour a *congè d' elire* had issued on 27th April, 1560, was consecrated on 14th July, 1560.

His name occurs as prisoner in the Tower in two lists. The first is the Lieutenant of the Tower's return, of the date 26th May, 1561; and the second, of the date 5th September, 1562. In the first he is "Doctor Turberville, late Bishop of Exestre, co[m]mitted the 8th of June, 1560;" and in the second, "James

(24). There is a writ addressed to him as Bishop of Exeter, of this date. Rymer, 2nd ed., vol. xv. 536.

(25). The five, and the respective dates of their commitments were, Heath, 10th June; Thirlby, 3rd June; Watson, 20th May; Pate, 20th May; and Bourne, 8th June. Pope Pius IV sent his conciliatory letter to Elizabeth on 5th May, 1560. She refused to receive it. (Fuller's *Ch. Hist.* xvi. Cent. 40.)

(26). Bishop Watson had been sent there on the conclusion of the Theological Conference. He and Bishop White of Winchester were sent for a short time only; then the Lieutenant "was to suffer them to have each of themone of their own men to attend upon them, and their own stuff for their bedding and other necessary furniture, and to appoint them to some convenient lodging meet of their sort." Quoted by Mr. Froude (vol. vii, 87), who likens the imprisonment even of Bonner to the condition only of a monk in his monastery. But to understand its miseries we should read Bishop Fisher's letter of 22nd December, 1534, in Bayley's *History of the Tower*, p. 139. Fisher, too, had a servant to wait on him.

Turberville, doctor.”<sup>27</sup> In the second list, besides his brethren the deprived Bishops, are the Lady Katherine Grey, the Earl of Hertford, and the Earl of Lennox.

On the 26th July, 1562, Sir Edward Warner, the Lieutenant of the Tower, being called before the Privy Council at Greenwich, “had command to cause the late Bishops, now prisoners in the Tower, to be more straightly shut up<sup>28</sup> than they have accustomed to, so as they may not have such common conference as they have used to have, whereby much trouble and disquietness might (if their wishes and practices might take place) grow in the Common Wealth and to the great disturbance thereof.”<sup>29</sup>

On the 12th January, 1563, Parliament opened and Convocation also; and Nowell, the Dean of St. Paul’s, and Day, the Provost of Eton, in their opening sermons are said by the Spanish Ambassador, in his letter of the 14th, to have urged the propriety of “killing the caged wolves,” that is to say, the Catholic Bishops in the Tower.<sup>30</sup>

On the 20th April the Act (5th Elizabeth, c. 1) passed making it penal on the first, and high treason on the second occasion to refuse the Oath of Supremacy, if tendered by a bishop. Mr. Froude says, “Heath, Bonner, Thirlby, Feckenham, and the other prisoners, at once prepared to die. The protestant ecclesiastics would as little spare them as they had spared the protestants. They would have shown no mercy themselves, and they looked for none.”<sup>31</sup> But the historian distinguishes not between a Bonner and a Turberville or a Heath.

The Bishops applied to the Emperor Ferdinand, but before he could answer their appeal the plague breaks out. It began among

(27). Bayley’s *Hist. Tower*, app. p. L, and p. LI.

(28). The condition of a close prisoner in the Tower may be gathered from this inscription there, “Close Prisoner, 8 moneths, 32 weekes, 224 dayes, 5376 houres.” Bayley’s *Hist. Tower*, p. 177.

(29). MS. Register, Council Office.

(30). Froude’s *Hist.* vii. 490. Nowell’s sermon, as given in his life by Churton, p. 86, contains no reference to the imprisoned Bishops.

(31). Froude’s *History*, vii, 491.

the English army at Havre, in June, and was brought to London in July. It raged in London in August; the weekly deaths were 700, 800, 1,000, and rose in the last week of that month to 2,000. The imprisoned Bishops and the French Hostages then prayed the Council to be sent from the Tower.<sup>32</sup> The Council sent Bishop Thirlby and Dr. Boxall to Archbishop Parker, Abbot Feckenham to the Bishop of Winchester, Bishop Bourne to the Bishop of Lincoln, and, we must assume, Bishop Pate to the Bishop of Salisbury, and our Bishop Turberville to the Bishop of London, who had then, besides Fulham, country houses at Hadham and Wickham.<sup>33</sup>

The prisoners were at the mercy of their keepers, who, being the administrators of the Oath of Supremacy, could at any moment peril the lives of their episcopal brethren by offering it. But they were treated as guests by Parker and the Bishop of Lincoln, and we will not easily believe but that our Bishop was treated kindly by the mild and affable Grindal, in whose days the gardens of Fulham Palace first became remarkable.<sup>34</sup>

The Emperor interceded with the Queen, in the letter of September, 1563, before mentioned, begging that she would not proceed less mercifully against the imprisoned Bishops because they were unable, with a safe conscience, to comply with her new law. The Queen, in her reply, says that though these prelates now declined to comply with the rule which they obeyed in her father and brother's time, yet, out of respect for the

(32). Strype's *Parker*, i, 177. Foreign State Papers, Eliz., 28th Aug. 1563.

(33). What was done with Heath does not appear. Was he the Nicholas Hethe of the Order of Council, 22nd June, 1565, who "wandreth abroad?" Miss Strickland charges Queen Elizabeth with cruelty upon this evidence (*Queens*, vol. vi, p. 260), which Mr. Foss thinks not proven (*Judges of England*, v. 388). In his letter of 1573, Heath says he had enjoyed quietness "by the gracious favour of the Queen's Majeste through the mediation of my singular good Lord of Leycester." Sir James Harington says, *Nugæ Antiq.*, vol. ii, p. 25, that Q. Elizabeth "used no man of his religion so graciously."

(34). This Bishop was a judicious and vigorous planter, and protected as well as renewed the woods of his see. His grapes were so early ripe that he used to send a present of them to the Queen, generally first or second week in Sept. (Strype's *Grindal*, Faulkner's *Fulham*). Glass was not then used.

Emperor's request, at not a little offence to her subjects, she had spared them (*pepercimus*); and Archbishop Parker directed his bishops not to tender the oath twice without his direction.

In January, 1565, the Bishop of Lincoln got the Archbishop to beg Cecil to let Bishop Bourne be at his own house in London. There is no entry in the Council books of any such application as to Bourne, but there is as to our Bishop, on the 30th January, 1565.<sup>35</sup>

"At Westminster the xxx Jan., 1564,<sup>36</sup>

The Ld. Treasurer,  
The Marquess of North<sup>th</sup>.  
The Earl of Leicester,  
The Ld. Admyral,  
The Ld. Chamberlayne,

Mr. Comptroller,  
Mr. Vice Chamberlan,  
Mr. Secretary,  
Mr. Oates,  
Mr. Mason,  
Mr. Sackville.

"Lre to the Bishop of London signifying that at his motion the Lordes are contented that after he shall have taken good bondes with sufficient sureties of Dr. Turberville heretofore comyitted to his custody that he shall remain in some certain place in the Cyte of London and be forth comng when his L. shall call for him then he is willed to suffer him to departe out of furder custody and he is for this tyme discharged.

"A Lre to the Bishop of Salisbury to do ut supra with Dr. Pate heretofore committed unto him with this enlargement in or about London."

No further authentic record appears, but if we suppose Bishop Turberville shortly after this to have been allowed to leave London,<sup>37</sup> being bound by his recognizance to appear when

(35). MS. Register, Council Office.

(36). O.S., and therefore 1565 N.S.

(37). It seems that the absence of any further notice in the Council books of any permission to leave London does not show that it was not allowed. Bishops Poole, and Bourne, and Pate, have only accorded to them liberty to leave the Bishop with whom they resided and live in London, and yet Poole goes to his own farm, Bourne to Silvertown in Devonshire, and Pate to foreign parts. In 1561 we have this suggestion to the Privy Council, "Dr. Poole, late Bishop of Peterborough, to remain in the City of London or suburbs or within three miles compass about the same." Strype's *Annals*, vol. i. 275.



called for, and conclude that it was in the spring of this year, 1565, that he fitted up the house of Gaulden, how natural do the emblems and inscriptions appear? The ascetic of Winchester and the Cloister; the King's counsellor; the equal administrator of justice; the prisoner in the Tower; the expectant of the scaffold on Tower Hill; and the confident truster in the Great Day; here, in varied guise, depicts his experiences.

So were wont to grave their thoughts on the thick walls of their prison his fellow bondsmen in the Tower; inscription after inscription may yet be read there, traced by catholic nobles and priests, in the tongue which to them was sanctified by sacred use. Such emblems and inscriptions were the mode in which, during their long and dreary imprisonments, catholic captives in Elizabeth's reign used to give vent to their "sorrowful sighings;"<sup>38</sup> and may we not think that it was our Bishop, who ordered the representation of the Last Trump at Gaulden and the words placed there, having vividly in his remembrance that inscription of 1561 still legible in the Broad Arrow Tower,

SURGITE MORTUI VENITE AD JUDICIUM.

The selection of Gaulden by Bishop Turberville was probably due to his association with Bishop Bourne at their meals in the Tower. Bishop Bourne's brother, Richard Bourne, lived at Wiveliscombe, three miles from Gaulden. The place, though it would seem from the carefully constructed fishpond to have been perhaps once a grange of the Priory and formerly used by some members of the Taunton House, yet at the time of the sale to Standish was in the tenure of a lessee or farmer,<sup>39</sup> who had, probably, a beneficial lease. This lease might have been acquired by Bishop Turberville without his connecting himself with the Manor. The spot was near the Bishop's old diocese, though not within it, secluded and healthful. It had been in his early days the possession of a House to which a Turberville had given the church of Dulverton and the land of Golialand;

(38). See Bayley's *History of the Tower. passim.*

(39). See the particulars of the grant, 36th Henry VIII, Record Office.



it must have been attractive to a nature, imbued as his was with reverence for an ancient and pious ancestry.

It was in this same year [1565] that Bishop Bourne got free from the Bishop of Lincoln, and came down to live with his old friend Dr. Carew, Archdeacon of Exeter, at Silverton, some 20 miles from Gaulden. At Crediton, close by, Bishop Turberville would find his nephew, Nicholas, established by his own bounty on a portion of the manor, which the Bishop had induced Queen Mary to restore to the Bishops of Exeter.<sup>40</sup>

We have only vague reports to guide us as to his after history. Fuller says "Poole of Peterborough, Turberville of Exeter, &c., lived in their own or their friends houses."<sup>41</sup>

Dr. Oliver, in his *Lives of the Bishops of Exeter* (p. 137), says, "The precise date of his death we have looked for in vain." Sir Thomas Hardy, in his edition of *Le Neve*, says Turberville died 1st Nov., 1559. This is the statement of Tyacke, but we have proved that the Bishop was alive in January, 1565. The Administration Act and Calendar, in 1667, states him to have died in 1559, "*aut eo circiter*." Anthony A. Wood says "in 1559 (2 Eliz.) he was deprived of his bishoprick for denying the Queen's supremacy over the Church, and afterwards lived a private life saith one,<sup>42</sup> and another<sup>43</sup> that he lived at his own liberty to the end of his life, adding that he was an honest gentleman but a simple bishop; and a third that he lived a private life many years, and died in great liberty.<sup>44</sup> But at length a fourth person who comes lagge, as having lately appeared in

(40). Nicholas Turberville, nephew of the Bishop, is styled as of Crediton in the Turberville pedigree in Hutchins's *Dorset*, i, 140; and is entered in *Proceedings in Chancery*, Elizabeth, p. 52, as Rector, probably Lay Rector, of St. Breocke at Crediton. He had also Cutton, which had belonged to the chapel of the Castle of Exeter. Pole's *Devon*, 673.

(41). *Church History*, Ed. 1655, xvi Cent., p. 59.

(42). Joh. Vowell, alias Hooker, in his *Cat. of the Bishops of Exeter*, in the 3rd vol. of Holinshed's *Chronicle*, p. 1309, 6.

(43). The author of *The Execution of Justice in England*, &c., printed 1583, in Oct. [Also in Somers' *Tracts*.]

(44). W. Godwin in *Com. de Præsul. Angl.* edit. 1616, p. 476.

print, I mean Richard Tyack, then Chamberlain of Exeter, tells us<sup>45</sup> in his *Antiquities of the City of Exeter* (full of mistakes) that he died on the 1st of Nov., 1559, and in another place in the said book that after his deprivation he lived a private life."<sup>46</sup> Carte says "Heath and Pole lived on their own estates, and died at last as White and Turberville also did, at liberty."<sup>47</sup>

Bishop Andrews, in his *Tortura Torti*, published in 1609, says (p. 147), "Turbervillus Exoniensis, cum per multos annos privatus vixisset, in summa libertate et ipse defunctus est." But this is only a repetition of the *Execution of Justice*, as quoted by Wood. Dr. Oliver quotes Hoker as saying "that Bishop Turberville was soon enlarged, but commanded to keep his house in London, where he lived a private life, and there died." Bishop Godwin, who, from his connection with Exeter, should have known the facts accurately, only copies the statement of the *Execution of Justice*.

The *Execution of Justice*, published anonymously in 1583, was, Strype says, either written or revised by Lord Burghley.<sup>48</sup> It states that Archbishop Heath "was not restrained of his libertie nor deprived of his proper lands and goods, but lived in his own house very discreetly during all his natural life;" and so it speaks of Poole and others, and continues "whereto may be added the Bishop, then of Exeter, Turberville, an honest gentleman but a simple bishop, who lived at his own libertie to the end of his life." This statement, however, containing no reference to the three years imprisonment of Heath or Turberville in the Tower, reflects no credit on the accuracy or ingenuousness of that statesman, who, as Mr. Secretary Cecil, is recorded as present at the Council Meetings of July, 1562, and January, 1565.

These are all protestant authorities; but the catholic writers,

(45). Printed at London, 1677, in Oct., in the *Cat. of the Bishops of Exeter*, in the beginning of the book, num. 34.

(46). Athen. Oxon ii. 795.

(47). Hist. iii, 373.

(48). Strype's *Ann.*, iii. 204.

quoted by Dr. Oliver,<sup>49</sup> tell a different story. "Sanders, in his Treatise *de Schismate Anglicano*,<sup>50</sup> numbers Turberville among the bishops who died either in prison or in exile ; and Dr. Bridgewater, towards the end of the *Concertatio*, writes as follows: R<sup>mus</sup>. Turberville Eps. Exoniensis obiit in vinculis."

There seems no ground for believing that Bishop Turberville, after January, 1565, was again put in prison. It is safer to rely on modern catholic writers. Mr. Butler<sup>51</sup> says that all the bishops were deprived and imprisoned, but the imprisonment was gently managed and the greater part of them left prisoners at large ; and that Watson was the only prelate against whom Government proceeded with severity.

Dr. Lingard<sup>52</sup> says, "Turberville of Exeter, and Pool of Peterborough, were suffered to remain at their own houses, on their recognizances not to leave them without license."

This must be taken as true of our Bishop's life after the spring of 1565, and the adornment of Gaulden Hall and the separation of the Chapel could not have been done without ample time and easy circumstances. Such leisure and competence the character of Bishop Turberville would secure. No historian mentions his name but to speak of his gentleness. In an age of troubles he was a peacemaker ; in an age of persecutors he was mild and lenient ; amidst overbearing prelates he was an example of meekness ; and, we may apply to him, what Fuller says of the gentle Heath, "as he showed mercy in prosperity, so he found it in adversity."

(49). Oliver, p. 137.

(50). Published in 1587.

(51). Butler's *English Catholics*, i., 306.

(52). Vol. vi., p. 668.

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# Rules.

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THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the county of Somerset, and the establishment of a Museum and Library.

II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District, or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such special Meetings and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* Members), which shall hold Monthly Meetings for receiving reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and the other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings as an Annual Subscription, which shall become due on the 1st of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary or Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When any office shall become vacant or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society shall (with the author's consent, and subject to the discretion of the Committee), be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.



XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit Books or Specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution, the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees for the advancement of Literature, Science, and Art, in the town of Taunton and the County of Somerset.

May, 1878.

*\*\* It is requested that Contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Taunton Castle.*



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 Mitchell, G. W. *Taunton*  
 Moore, C. *Cambridge-place, Bath*  
 295 Moor, Rev. J. F. *Sion-place, Sion-hill, Bath*  
 Moor, Rev. R. W. *Welton Lodge, Prior Park Road, Bath*  
 Morland, John, *Glastonbury*  
 Moss, Rev. J. J. *East Lydford*  
 Moysey, H. G. *Bathelton Court*  
 300 Munckton, W. W. *Curry Rivel*  
 Munro, Lieut.-General, C.B., *Montys Court, Taunton*  
 Murch, Jerom, *Cranwells, Bath*
- Naish, W. B. *Ston Easton*  
 Neale, W. *Kingsdon, Somerton*  
 305 Neville, Rev. W. F. *Butleigh*  
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 Newman, Rev. W. A. *Hatch Beauchamp*  
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 Newton, F. W. *Barton Grange, Taunton*  
 310 Nicholetts, J. T. *South Petherton*  
 Norris, Hugh, *South Petherton*  
 Nutt, Rev. C. H. *East Harptree*
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 320 Palairret, Rev. R. *Norton St. Philip*  
 Parfitt, Right Rev. Dr. *Cottles, Melksham, Wilts*  
 Parish, Rev. C. P. *Ashfield, Taunton*  
 Parsons, F. C. J. *Bridgwater*  
 Parsons, H. F., M.D. *Goole, Yorkshire*  
 325 Parsons, James, *The Lynch, Somerton*  
 Paul, W. Bond, *Langport*  
 Payne, Mrs. *Vivary Lodge, Taunton*

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 330 Penny, T. *Taunton*  
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 Pigot, Rev. J. C. *Priory Villa, Taunton*  
 Pinchard, W. P. *Taunton*  
 335 Pinchard, J. H. B. „  
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 Portman, The Hon. W. H. B. *Durweston, Blandford, Dorset*  
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 Reeves, A. „  
 Reynolds, Vincent J. *Canons Grove, Taunton*  
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 Robertson, Henry, *Over Stowey*  
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 Rogers, T. E. *Yarlington House, Wincanton*  
 Rose, Rev. W. F. *Worle, Weston-super-Mare*  
 Rossiter, Mrs. *Silvermead, Taunton*  
 Rossiter, G. F., M.B., *Weston-super-Mare*  
 365 Rowcliffe, C. E. *Stogumber*  
 Rowe, J. *Taunton*  
 Rowe, Rev. J. *Long Load, Langport*  
 Ruegg, Lewis H. *Sherborne, Dorset*  
 Ruel, Major Herbert  
 370 Rutter, John, *Ilminster*



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 Salmon, Rev. E. A. *Martock*  
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 Serel, Thomas, *Wells*  
 385 Seymour, Alfred, *Knogle, Wilts*  
 Sheldon, Thos. *Clevedon*  
 Shelmerdine, T. *Langport*  
 Shepherd, J. W. *Ilminster*  
 Shepherd, Rev. Fredk. *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*  
 390 Shore, J. *Whatley, near Frome*  
 Shout, R. H. *Wellington Terrace, Clevedon*  
 Shum, F., 11, *Laura-place, Bath*  
 Simmons, C. J. *Lower Langford, Bristol*  
 Skrine, H. D. *Warleigh Manor, Bath*  
 395 Slade, Wyndham, *Wey House, Taunton*  
 Sloper, E. *Taunton*  
 Smith, Lady, *Somerton*  
 Smith, Cecil, *Bishops Lydeard*  
 Smith, Clement, *Crescent, Taunton*  
 400 Smith, Rev. Fredk. J. „  
 Smith, Rev. Gilbert E. *Barton St. David*  
 Smith, J. H. *Taunton*  
 Smith, Richard, *Bridgwater*  
 Solly, Miss L. *Bath*  
 405 Somers, B. E. *Mendip Lodge, Langford, Bristol*  
 Somerville, J. C. *Dinder, Wells*  
 Sotheby, Rev. T. H. *Langford Budville*  
 Sparks, William, *Crewkerne*  
 Sparks, W. B. „  
 410 Speke, W. *Jordans, near Ilminster*  
 Spence, Robert, *Mount Villa, Wembdon, Bridgwater*  
 Spencer, J. H. *Corfe, Taunton*  
 Spiller, H. *Taunton*  
 Stanley, E. J. *Quantock Lodge, Bridgwater*  
 415 Stanton, Rev. J. J. *Tokenham Rectory, Wotton Bassett*

- St. Aubyn, Colonel, 7, *Great Bedford-street, Bath*  
 Steevens, A. *Taunton*  
 Stephenson, Rev. J. H. *Lympsham*  
 Stoate, Wm. *Wembdon, Bridgwater*  
 420 Strachey, Sir E., Bart. *Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol*  
 Stradling, W. J. L. *Chilton-super-Polden*  
 Stuart, A. T. B. *Mellifont Abbey, Wookey, Wells*  
 Stubbs, Joseph, *Grammar School, Langport*  
 Stuckey, V. *Langport*  
 425 Surrage, J. L. 2, *Saville Place, Clifton, Bristol*  
 Surtees, W. Edward, *Tainfield, Taunton*  
 Swayne, W. T. *Glastonbury*  
 Symes, Rev. R. *Cleeve, Bristol*
- Talbot de Malahide, Lord, *Evercreech, Shepton Mallet*  
 430 Tagart, W. H. *Parkfield, Weston, Bath*  
 Taplin, T. K. *Mount House, Milverton*  
 Taunton, Lady, *Eaton-place, London*  
 Tawney, E. B. 16, *Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol*  
 Taylor, Peter, *Mountlands, Taunton*  
 435 Taylor, Thos. *Taunton*  
 Templeman, Rev. Alex. *Puckington*  
 Terry, Geo. *Mells, Frome*  
 Thomas, C. J. *Drayton Lodge, Redland, Bristol*  
 Thompson, E. S. *Christ's College, Cambridge*  
 440 Thompson, Geo. C. 6, *Cathcart Hill, Junction Road, London, N.*  
 Thring, Rev. Godfrey, *Alford, Castle Cary*  
 Thring, Theodore, " "  
 Tinley, G. A. *Watts House, Bishops Lydeard*  
 Todd Lt.-Col. *Keynston Lodge, Blandford*  
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 Trotman, W. *Taunton*  
 Trower, Miss, *Gotton House, Taunton*  
 455 Tuckwell, Rev. W. *Stockton, near Rugby*  
 Turner, C. J. *Staplegrove*  
 Turner, Henry G. „

- Tyack, S. C.  
 Tylor, Edw. Burnett, LL.D., F.R.S., *Linden, Wellington*  
 460 Tynte, Col. Kemeys, *Halswell, Bridgwater*  
 Tynte, St. David Kemeys, *Leversdown, Bridgwater*  
 Tyndale, J. W. Warre, *Perridge House, Shepton Mallet*  
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 Vaughan-Lee, V. H. *Dillington House, Ilminster*  
  
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 Wade, E. F. *Axbridge*  
 Walker, W. C. *Shepton Mallet*  
 Waldron, Clement, *Llandaff, S. Wales*  
 Walters, R. *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*  
 470 Walters, G. *Frome*  
 Ward, Rev. J. W. *Ruishton*  
 Warren, J. F. H. *Langport*  
 Warren, H. F. F.        "  
 Warren, Rev. J. *Bawdrip*  
 475 Weatherley, Christopher, 39, *High-street, Wapping, London, E.*  
 Welch, C. *Minehead*  
 Welman, C. N. *Norton Manor*  
 Welman, C. C. *Fitzroy, Taunton*  
 Welsh, W. I. *Wells*  
 480 Westlake, W. H. *Taunton*  
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 Williams, Rev. Wadham Pigott, *Bishops Hull*  
 Winter, J. A. *Cricket Court, Chard*  
 Winterbotham, W. L., M.B. *Bridgwater*  
 Winwood, Rev. H. H. 11, *Cavendish-crescent, Bath*  
 490 Wise, Rev. W. J. *Shipham, Bristol*  
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 Wood, Alexander, *The Laurels, Horsham, Sussex*  
 Woodforde, F. H., M.D. *Amberd House, Taunton*  
 Woodland, Wm. *Trull, Taunton*  
 495 Woodley, W. A. *Taunton*  
 Wotton, E.                "  
  
 Yatman, Rev. J. A. *Wincombe, Weston-super-Mare*
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THE  
Churchwardens Accounts

OF THE  
*CHURCH & PARISH*

OF  
*S. Michael without the North Gate,*  
*BATH,*  
1349—1575.

EDITED BY  
C. B. PEARSON, *M.A., F.R.S.L., &c.,*  
*Prebendary of Salisbury.*

*(Published by the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History  
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1878.





## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

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### INTRODUCTION.

- P. ix, line 29, for *wontonly* read *wantonly*.  
P. xii, at the end of note (10), read “*In the Lambeth accounts, 1523, occurs, ‘A staff for ye Judas crosse 4d.’*”  
P. xiii, line 5, for ; read , .  
P. xxiii, at end of Introduction, read “*In editing the following accounts, it may be well to premise that, where the same items are repeated yearly, it has not been thought necessary to give them, in order to save space.*”

### ACCOUNTS.

- P. 3, note §, after *hurdles* read : after *occurs* read , .  
P. 9, line 11, for *drink* read (*drink*).  
P. 10, after line 12, insert No. 8.  
P. 12, line 28, for *Sarctorum* read *Sanctorum*.  
P. 18, line 25, for *lingno* read *ligno*.  
P. 20, line 30, for 1473 read 1413.  
P. 22, line 29, for *et* read *id est*.  
P. 23, line 22, after *libros* insert , .  
P. 25, line 22, *bacillis*—these were pitchers.  
P. 27, line 9, for *meremeii* read *meremei*.  
,, line 20, *rotulo obituali*—i.e., a roll of the names of those persons whose obits were observed; the only register of deaths, apparently, in those days.



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*Introduction.*

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## Churchwardens' Accounts, S. Michael's, Bath.

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### INTRODUCTION.

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A SERIES of Churchwardens' accounts is preserved in the parish of S. Michael's, Bath, written on parchment rolls, ranging from A.D. 1349, 22nd Edw. III, to A.D. 1575, 17th Eliz., of which no detailed description has ever been published, except that Warner, in his *History of Bath*, printed a very imperfect copy of portions of them, made about 100 years ago, evidently by a most incompetent hand, when there was some dispute between the parish of S. Michael and the Corporation. For antiquarian, and I should have thought for legal purposes, this copy is utterly valueless.

Occasional years in the series of course are wanting ; but the documents range continuously, 77 in number ; 67 Latin and 10 English. Some of them are much faded, torn, and stained, and often illegible ; but most of them are in good preservation, and some are really beautiful specimens of writing.

So far as I can ascertain, no accounts of the kind of so early a date have as yet been printed ; the most ancient noticed by Nicholls are in 1427 ; those of Ludlow, printed by the Camden Society, commence in 1540 ; but none that I am acquainted with furnish so many curious illustrations of mediæval life as these Rolls, of which a certain portion is contained in this volume of the Society's *Transactions*, and the remainder will follow as space allows. Their principal peculiarity is that they deal not merely with the ordinary Church expenses, but with those arising out of the management of parish property in lands and houses.

The Procuratores, as they were called, rendered their account yearly, usually on the Feast of the 11,000 Virgins, Oct. 21. The items are arranged under various heads, the amount of each being added at the foot. 1. Arrears from Wardens of the preceding year. 2. Rents of Assize. 3. Monies received for various objects. 4. Certain stated yearly payments. 5. Rents in arrear, or deficient through tenements vacant, the amount of which varies of course, but is generally considerable, and as the same arrears recur, I conceive the tenants were mostly poor, and their rents were not rigorously exacted. 6. The costs of the Church and various tenements. 7. Obits and Anniversaries. At the close of many of the Rolls is a list of Church goods, and also of various articles held in pledge as security for money owing, the names of the new Wardens, he who is to bear the purse being specified; "and so they depart in peace." In the early times the Wardens received xijd. as their salary; subsequently they seem to have had an honorarium of varying amount, *pro bono servicio suo*.

The charge for the expenses of each account is always specified, and does not vary much from first to last, so that we know the exact cost of the production of each roll.

4d. was spent at the first sitting down in drink.

2d. for parchment.

12d. at first, and 20d. afterwards, to the clerk for writing the account.

12d. for a repast, *jantaculum*, or *prandiolum*, for all persons present.

The clerk was not always a lay clerk. The Vicar of Stalles Church occurs as engrossing the account. Whoever the writer was, he did not scruple to use English if the Latin word did not occur to him, and thus we often have a curious medley,<sup>1</sup> introducing many localisms, of which the exact meaning is lost.

How the property possessed by the parish was acquired at

(1). 1473. Johi Smythe pro emendacione de le locke in the Tower jd., where the idioms of *three* languages occur.

first does not appear, as, in 1349, they already had rents amounting to xs. ixd.; these were gradually increased by purchase, or new property was presented by various persons, all which acquirements are specified in the accounts.

In 18th Hen. VIII "It was ordered by the Rector and parishioners, that the Wardens should render an account of all annual receipts on the Lord's day next after the Feast of the 11,000 Virgins, under pain of forfeiture to the said Church of 1 lb. of wax." The rental was reported accordingly, and is quoted in all subsequent accounts as the authoritative return. There were various tenements, closes, gardens, coppices, stables, cottages, &c., in Walcote, Walcotestrete, Bradestrete, Ffroglane, or Ffrogmerelane (where I understand New Bond Street is now) and Stallstrete. They claimed 12d. yearly for "the Rector's tenement in Walcotestrete, called the Rectory." The number of various properties named is 37; the rents of Assise, as they were called, amounted then to £11 18s. 8d., a sum which should be reckoned now at twelve times as much, at least; some think fifteen or twenty.

Frequent mention is made of a locality called in 1403 Allevorde, afterwards Alvord, Alford-lane, and ultimately Alford. It was in the vicinity of Boat-stall, or Slippery-lane, where a ferry leading to Bathwick formerly existed. That it lay near the river is shown, in 1478, by entry of "3d. given to the bailiff, for fine for the water overflowing the road to Alford,"—and "2d. to a labourer, for staking and freying the road by the Avon." In 1420 they built a house of some size there, and there was also a "dyinge howse, formerly called horse-mill," held by Robert Batyn of the Church for the life of Isabell Bedford, at 6d. per annum, and a land tax to the bailly of the city of 1½d.

On one of the closes, *juxta Abbonam*, named Elm-haye, there was evidently a good stock of elm-trees, which were felled, sawn<sup>2</sup> up, split into boards and palings, and the chips and hard wood<sup>3</sup>

(2). 1485. pro sawyng meremii de propriis arboribus in Elme heyne, iis. ivd.

(3). 1479. pro lignis venditis, xs. xjd.

sold and carried to account ; occasionally one fell into the river, and had to be "plucked out of the water ;" there is notice also of the sale of the pasturage, the "*gras*," the fruit, "*vestura*," of the trees, particularly apples, of loppings "*tonsurā*" of the trees, of "*wode*," "*hegdg-wode*," of stakes, planks, and poles and even of the *nettles*. In 1400 I find *pro urticis venditis ad Lawrencium Bebbe, 2d.*" They had a saw-pit, and all repairs seem to have been executed with their own materials, as far as wood was concerned ; stone (and other building materials, comprehended under the word *meremium*<sup>4</sup>) was fetched from Claverton, by permission of the Provost, from Farley, Hampton, Ynglescumbe, and other quarries ; slates from Langridge ; straw, for thatching, was got from Charlcombe, Barewyke, and Walcote. Tiles, for roofing, were stone tiles, such as still exist on some old houses ; in 1463, *tyle-stones* are named ; *pro 600 tyle stones dictis tenementis, 6s. 8d.*, and in 1465, *pro M. petris tegulis, 6s. 8d.* I am told they were dug in quarries, on Lansdown, which perhaps belonged to the Church, as mention is made of their sale ; *pro tegulis venditis, 6s. 8d.*, and 1479, *pro C dim : tegulis venditis xxd.*

There is often mention of the sale and hiring of brazen jars, *olle enee*, which fetched from 4s. to 6s. 6d., and were hired for a year, or half a year, or less, at 8d. per annum ; these were used for dyeing. Thus 4d. *pro redditu unius olle enee locate a dominico Hokke (i.e. 15 days after Easter) usque ad Fest. S. Mich. pro dimidio anni.* Lime also was made and sold. The other stated sources of income were, a collection at Christmas and Easter, for lights for the Rood, the Paschal torch, and the Font-taper, amounting generally to vjs. vjd. ; and ijs. ijd. for candles and holy bread yearly ; and for knells rung for the souls of deceased persons, *pro classicis pulsandis pro animabus.* Occa-

(4). There are a multitude of other words referring to building and its materials, English and Latin,—helme, tessel, spykys, lach-nayles, borde-nayles, hacche-nayles, studdying, frythyng, kyttyng, lesyng, crestes, serres, asseres, stoffe, rudying, brekyng, stonnayles, strokenayles, etc., etc.

sionally they received fines for tenements, *e.g.*, 1433, "John Balle gives as fine of his tenements held of the parish, viz., one in Brade-strete, and another in Walcote-strete, xls., half of which he will pay on the Annunciation of the B.V. next, xxs.; and xxs. on the Feast of S. Michael the Archangel next. And John Norton gives of his tenement in Walcot-strete, which Roger Towker now holds, xxxijjs. viijd., which he will pay, or cause to be paid, on the Feast of S. Michael the Archangel next." They also received the fees for burials in the church. 1502, "For burial of Rich<sup>d</sup> Hurste allowed in the Church, vjs."

Some of the larger houses had two stories, with galleries, stairs, enterclose,<sup>4a</sup> wood-flooring, paved court-yard, and plots of ground round them; they were constructed of rough stone and timber, and wattyl walls, plastered, and whitewashed with lime. Cottages apparently had no chimneys, but only smoke holes;<sup>5</sup> I conclude they had but one story. The gardens were protected by walls, and also by hedges, for which thorn bushes and stakes were largely bought; what grew in their gardens does not appear, except that there are several notices of the purchase of green beans,<sup>6</sup> which were made into pottage on certain occasions.

The particularity and minutiae of repairs show vigilant care against ecclesiastical dilapidations. The specifications of these are endless, and certainly furnish very curious data concerning building operations 400 years ago. I select one or two as specimens:—

1479.—To a tiler working by task work 17 days on	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
the tenement of Philip Stronge, at 6d. a day	8	6
To Rich <sup>d</sup> Lucy for c lathes 12d., for two crestes		
2d. . . . .	1	2
For ccl lathes 2s. 1d., for 2 packes of mosse		
10d., for m lathe nayles 13d. . . . .	4	0
For taking down the tiles of the kitchen . . . . .		10

(4a). Partition-wall.

(5). 1430 *in factura de duo smokeholys in domo Wi. Osborne, 3½d.*

(6). 1509, *pro duobus bushell viridium fabarum emendis cum factura earundem in potagio, 8d.* 1533, *pro dimidio modii novarum fabarum, 8d.*

*New Series, Vol. III, 1877, Part II.*



For setting up the timbers of the said kitchen and other works .. ..	1	8
For raising the walls of the said tenement ..	1	11
For one piece of oak 5d. For one plank for the gutter 4d. .. ..		9
For three dozen and a half of helme 1s. 2d., for 13 dozen do. 4s. 4d. .. ..	5	6
For William Mogg at dawbing ..	2	0
For 80 semes of rods .. ..	3	0
For stryddyng the yerdis and schuppyng the spekes for y <sup>e</sup> same .. ..	10	
To a certain man for making the Wattyl ..	1	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 1	11 3
1502.—2 packes of moss for the tenement of John Millward .. ..	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
7 semes of timber to make stodes ..	1	9
7 semes of rods for the said work ..	1	8
Twistes and hokes for divers doors ..	1	0
4 twistes and 2 hokes for windows of the parlor of said tenement .. ..		5
Work of a carpenter to make stalls and lattices	1	3
Nails 1d., 1½ dozen crestes 9d., 200 lathes 1s. 4d. .. ..	2	2
4 twists for windows of room over the parlor		4
Hokes for said windows 2d., 4 dozens sand to make one enterclose 2s., hay 3d., gravell 1d.	2	6
One workman at taskwork ( <i>in tasco</i> ) on the wall of the said tenement .. ..	3	8
3 sacks of paving stones 12d., 1,000 lath nayles 14d., nayles 11d., 50 borde nayles 3d.	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18	9

This latter tenement may represent a good house of that day, as J. Millward was churchwarden the year before, and the parlor

and rooms over it imply spare apartments, exclusive of stalls and shop. Mention is found of the letting, *locacio*, of the "King's Crown," in the town, at Swaynswick, and at Merffylde,<sup>7</sup> also *hospitium les belly*, in Walcot, is mentioned, probably a hostelry with the sign "the Bells;" all these, from the rents paid, must have been good houses.

All the tenements of the Church paid a land tax, or reserved rent, "*Langabulum*," i.e., *land gabelle*, at first to the Lord Bishop. (It is also called *Land male*, e.g., 1530, before the dissolution of the Monastery of Durham, 15½d. was paid "*pro land mayle trium burgagiorum Domino Episcopo*.) This, in 1469, was taken from him and paid to the bailly of Bath for the King, and seems so to have continued as long as these rolls carry us. For some tenements fines were taken on the death of the tenant, e.g., 1426, *de fine domus Rt. Headiman* £3 6s. 8d.; but usually there seems to have been a yearly rent.

One of the earliest payments is 2s. 3d. to the Master of S. John's, Bath, for certain tenements belonging to the Hospital in Walcot-strete, and, as it was never discontinued down to 17th Elizabeth, for aught I know, the Hospital, which is now in existence, may still hold the property.

4s. 4d. was also paid "*Rectori istius ecclie*," for certain tenements in Walcote-strete. 20d. was paid to the Abbot of S. Augustine's, Bristol, for tenements in Walcot-strete, which, after the dissolution of the Monasteries was paid to "the Trinite College, Bristowe." Queen Mary restored it to the Abbey, and as the Abbey lands were ultimately made over as an endowment of the new Bishopric of Bristol, I imagine a rent "*schoparum*

(7). John of Tours, the Bishop to whom Bath was granted, and who accordingly was constituted by the Crown Abbot of Bath (whereby the monks, after having been governed by a resident Abbot for about 110 years, were put under Priors, subject to the Bishop, as Abbot), gave back to the Prior and monks for their maintenance, among other things, "the land of Hugh with the beard, to wit, Claverton, Docne, *Mersfield* and Eston," which is probably Marshfield. "Hugh de Montfort came with William the Conqueror, and in regard he wore a long beard, whereas his countrymen were at that time usually shaved, was commonly called *Hugo cum barba*, a title retained by his descendants for many generations. (Collinson, iii, 35.)

*apud Batho*" which appears among them in Dugdale, represents the Abbot's property, and perhaps the Ecclesiastical Commissioners hold it now. There are payments also for tenements in North-gate, Frog-lane, and other places, to the Cofferer and Wardens of the city of Bath. 1504 appears, "*pro le xis dicte ecclesie domino Regi 6s. 8d.*" the first, and, as far as I can see, the only mention of such a payment, until 14th Elizabeth, when "*ixs. xjd. to the Quene for tenths*" occurs, and "*iiijd. for a qwyttens for y<sup>e</sup> payment thereof.*"

I find notice of miracle plays performed in 1482.—"For potation for *le players*, in remembrance of their plays on divers occasions, 8d. For two bushels of corn for the same play, 2s. Paid to Walter Corryer, for wood to make a chest at the same time, 8d. Paid to John Slagg for bread and flowers, for the same, 5s. 6d. Paid to Robt. Chapman, for cheese, 13d. For two dosyns of beer for the same play, 4s. 4d. Paid for skins (probably for disguisement) for the same play, 20d. ; and to Wm. Bayle for steyning divers utensils ordered for the said play, 3s. ; and for carriage of timber and materials, 5d.

A list is given of the goods and chattels (*bonis et catellis*), handed over to the new Wardens in 1427 :—"Four chalices ; one pair of new silk vestments ; *flameolum de cypres* (a wrought brass cover, or mitre) for the pyx of the body of Christ, 8 linen towels (*manutergia*), 2 missals, 6 portiforia, 1 gradual, 8 processional, 1 ordinal, 1 legenda temporalia, 1 manual, and very many other ornaments."

In 1467 this list was increased by mention of a silver-gilt cross, a silver-gilt monstrance, 2 crewets of silver, 6 copes, "whereof two of clothe of goolde, the gift of John Jewent, late rector of this Church, and 4 banners, two of silk, and 2 steyned."<sup>8</sup> Some particulars occasionally are to be found

(8). To show how the old customs survived, I may mention that in 1631 the Swanswick account ends thus : "So there remaineth to the next Churchwardens 2s. 9d., and one Communion cup, and the cover of silver, a clothe to keep it in, the carpet and one clothe for the table, one pot of pewter, one surplice, one Bible, two Communion books, two Homilie books, Bishop Jewell's works, and Erasmus his Paraphrases, a cushion for the pulpit, and one glass bottle, covered with leathere."

illustrating the cost of the purchase and repair of the vessels of the Church :—

- 1366.—A case for a chalice, 12d.  
 1493.—For making one boat (*navis*, to hold incense) of silver, to Thomas Goldsmythe, 5s. 8d.  
 1484.—For renovating the Corona of the Church, and for divers colors and gold for the same, and the handiwork of a painter, 2s. 5d.  
 1502.—Four rings, bequeathed by Alice Abyndone, Agnes Smythe, Agnes Hewste, and Amete Veyreoke, expended in repair of a chalice that year ; for silver, beyond the rings, 6d. ; and for the same work, over what the parish gave, 2s.  
 1536.—For a thurible, 3s. 4d.

The cost of books also was considerable.

- 1349.—2s. was left by will of William de Wyke towards a missal, 2d. was paid for a skin to bind it, and 46s. 2d. was paid for the missal itself.  
 1370.—5s. for binding books, and 13d. for sheep skins, thread, and other things for the same.  
 1371.—A new *portiforium* cost £1 3s. 4d. ; a *processionale* in 1426 cost 5s. 11d., of which 5s. 1½d. was collected for the purchase.

In 1439 a manual was bought at Bristol for 16s. 8d. ; 1s. 6d. more being spent “on two men going on horseback to fetch the said book.” There is also frequent mention of binding books, and of leather bought for that purpose. One vainly regrets now that these books, acquired at such cost, and often very beautiful works of art, were wontonly destroyed, for the most part for the sake of their clasps and silver ornaments ; or sold for a trifle. Thus the churchwardens’ accounts of Bermondsey (2nd Edw. VI), say, “*Sold all owr Lattyn bokys of parchement for xs.*”

The expense of vestments also was great—taking money as

worth then twelve times its present value ;—a very moderate estimate.

In 1376 a new cope cost 20s., which may fairly represent £12 now ; in 1415, linen bought for a surplice, 5s. 2d. ; for thread, 3d. ; for making it, 3s. 4d. ; would equal at the same rate of calculation, £5. 1425.—26s. 10d. were collected for new vestments, which were bought, 1426, for 46s. 8d., about £28 of present money.

The cost of surplices varies much, probably in proportion to the fine quality of materials.

1425.—For a new surplice, 23s.

1431.—21d. for linen cloth for a surplice, and 18d. for making it.

1484.—For  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ells of linen for a surplice for the parish clerk, 2s. 9d., and 9d. to his wife for making it ; whereas, 1532, 7s.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. was paid for the Rector's surplice.

1425.—A new alb cost 4s. 9d., for setting on it the parure, 1d. ; for making, 8d.

1469.—For mending a silk cope and 2 tunicles, xjs., and bokeram bought for lyning the said cope 7d. ; wax candell for waxing the said cope, 2d.

1485.— $8\frac{1}{2}$  ells of linen were bought at 12d. per ell ; 1490, at 10d. per ell ; 1436, at  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ell. 1502, 8 ells for the Rector's surplice, 6s. 8d. ; making, 2s. 8d.

Setting on the parures, or apparels, is a charge in almost every roll, *e.g.* :—

1482.—“ *Settyng on le paruries quinque le Aubis et Amyse, 5d.*”

Girdles for vestments cost 2d. each.

1492.—5s. was paid by Robert Chapman, by gift from Alice Tomkyns, “ *for a vestment called le Mende ;*” a kind of pendant sleeve.

1541.—It appears 20s. *was paid to the Vicar of Stalles for the beste cope.*

Rochets and a “Chesippall” (Chasuble) are also mentioned, and constant repair and washing of vestments, and *buckram*, *ribbons*, &c., for them.

Gifts and bequests of various kinds were made to the Church,



*e.g.*, two silver-gilt rings at one time, and six more at another ; a green carpet, an apron of fine linen, wool, bales of cloth, a bushel of malt, a ewe and lamb, a pair of rosaries of jet, xi silver rosaries, xi coral beads, by bequest of the mother of Mr. William Cliftone, lately deceased, nine rosaries silver-gilt, a paten, a towel ; 1462, 2 sheep, sold for 20d., and 7d., from the executors of William Drayton, &c. Also pledges were often given to be held for debts, indicating scarcity of coin ; *e.g.*, a roll of white cloth for 10s., a sash for 8s., a fur cloak for 10s., a tunic of tawny color for 2s. 7d., a great dish for 20s., a lump of rock crystal, silver-gilt brooches, brass and pewter, j cawdrena, j katylle, and j candalabrum.

The wardens appear to have kept sheep, as was frequently done in country parishes, and the wool was sold, and the sheep let to graze, and the proceeds carried to account.

1505.—12d. for 3 lbs. of wool of certain Church sheep.

1518.—2s. 1d. for the same.

1536.—2s. for rent of farming the Church sheep ; an entry frequently occurring. *xjs. de conductione seu firma ovium hoc anno.*

1504.—13d. paid for keeping the Church sheep in winter.

1460.—Occurs, *Cotagium Dionysii Dyere vocatum Bere howse* ; was this a house in which the *Bier* was kept, or a *Bear house* ? With a garden and another tenement it paid 23s. 4d. per an.

The Church of S. Michael without the north gate, in the 14th and two next centuries, must have been large and handsome. I imagine a good deal of it was built certainly as early as 1367, when notice occurs of xs. repaid to John Gregory, *de eo quod ipse tantum accommodavit ad opus ecclesie*. There are various items for stone, "*ad opus ecclesie*," in 1368-9, and a donation of 2s. is set down, "*quod archidiaconus dedit ad opus ecclesie*," at that time. It must have had aisles, and a large chancel divided from the nave by a screen and rood loft, which I am disposed to think consisted of an understructure of stone, pierced with doors and

windows opening into the chancel, upon which was set the rood beam, *trabs*, supporting a candelabrum of fifteen lights, the middle one of which was called—for some reason which Dr. Rock, a man learned in ancient ritual, cannot assign<sup>9</sup>—the Judas light, for which there is regular provision in the accounts. This is of course a mere conjecture, but the following extract from the Roll for 1477 seems to describe more ornaments than usually surmounted a mere rood beam, unsupported from below, specially as in another place there is mention of the repair of a *window* of the rood :—

“*Et solutis Thome Speake pro xv<sup>im</sup> Judas pro le rode lofte iijd.*

*Et solutis Roberto Smythe pro factura iij standerys (standards) ferri et j rodde de ferro cum iij flawe de lices (fleur-de-lis) et iij rosys super le rode lofte xviij.*”

In the accounts of S. Margaret's, Westminster, printed by Nicholl, occurs :—

“1524.—Paid for twelve *Judacis* to stand with the taper 2s.;” on which he remarks in a note, “This is clearly wrong; but (?) what should it be?”

In the accounts of the Monastery of Durham, before the dissolution, A.D. 1518, is mentioned, “a goodly great mazer<sup>10</sup> called *Judas-cup*, edged with silver, and double gilt, with a foot underneath it to stand on, which was never used but on *Maundy Thursday at night* in the Frater House, and the whole convent did

(9). It has been suggested to me that it was a *blue* candle, couleur de Jude, i.e., *indigo*. The turquoise, which is a *blue* stone, was reputed of old to warn against *treachery*; and as, in some old accounts of All Hallows Staining, we find for *peynting* the Judasis of the Paschall and of the Rode-loft xxs.,” it seems not unlikely that the above is the true explanation.

(10). Mentioned in *Lord of the Isles*—

“Bring here the *mazers* four

My noble fathers loved of yore.”

and explained in a note to be a large goblet, named in an inventory of the treasures of James 3rd of Scotland, 1488, “*Item, 4 masaris called King Robert the Brocis.*” In accounts of S. Mary Hill, London, 1511, occurs :—“Mem. That the Judas of the pastal, i.e., the tymbre that the wax of the pastal is driven upon, weigheth 7lb.”

meet and keep their Maundy." This clearly had some reference to Judas the traitor.

In addition to the high altar (which had silken cloths, and a canopy, or baldachino, over it), there were altars with lights always burning before them, to the B. V. Mary; the Holy Trinity, S. Catharine, S. Egidius or Giles, the special saint of lepers and cripples, and hence to be looked for at Bath, and S. Christopher; over the last (and probably over others) was a picture, which was sold 1st Edward VI :—"20d. received for a *tablement* with an image of S. Christopher payntyd on ye same," and "for another *tablement*, 12d."

Lights were also burned before the cross and the font, and notice is made of a herse, in the chancel, which was an open stone or iron-work construction, fitted with many candelabra, under which coffins of persons of importance were laid during the singing of the Requiem. There was also a Holy Sepulchre, which, previous to Easter, was watched, and lights burned before it; there was a Lenten veil, with cords and pulley to work it; a large chest for vestments in the chancel; banners which were carried in procession on Rogation days, Corpus Christi, Dedication, and others. Large numbers of torches, weighing heavily, were always provided; *e.g.*, 1463, "for a new torch, weighing 24 lbs., whereof 8 lbs. belongs to the Church, and 16 lbs. of new wax was bought of John Wexmaker, 8s. 8d.;" for a new light for Easter, weighing 19 lbs., at 5½d. per lb., with 7 lbs. old wax, and making, to John Wexmaker, 8s. 8d.

1465.—2 journals of wax burning before Michael a year, 16d.

1485.—2 torches of 42 lbs. weight, at 3½d. a lb., 12s. 3d.

1503.—2 torches weighing 27 lbs, 11s. 9d.

1469.—1 journal at the Purifn. B. M., containing 1½ lb., 12d.;

2 wax lights for the Sepulchre, containing 4 lbs., at 7½d. a lb., 2s. 6d.

1490.—2 torches weighing 33 lbs., at 3d. a lb., 8s.

The whole cost of wax and oil was very large :—

1465.—Oil for the year, 3s. All the wax and making for the year, 5s. 8d.

1490.—Oil for the year, 4s. 6d. Wax for the year, 11s. 8d.

1478.—Wax for the beam, paschal torch, and small font tapers, and making up old wax against Easter, 7s. 6½d.

1504.—The cost was 10s. 10d.

Many other things show that the services of the Church were liberally and handsomely provided for.

The Church had a tower, with windows latticed to keep out birds;<sup>11</sup> a porch, and a sanctus bell; but the bell tower, *Campanile*, is always distinguished from the *turris*, and was apparently detached, and stood by itself on land for which a quit rent was paid;<sup>12</sup> and contained six bells. The great, second, third, middle, tenor, and treble bells are all specified.<sup>13</sup> Various sums were received for knells rung for departed persons, called sometimes *pulsacio*, and at others *classici pulsati*; e.g.,

1460.—*iiijd. rec. de Margareta Cockedale pro pulsacione classici pro anima Ri. Cockedale; et iiijd. de Rectore pro pulsacione classici pro anima Js. Bertelett.*

1509.—*iiijd. pro uno classico pulsato pro anima W. Stronge tempore suarum exsequiarum in dicta ecclesia dicendarum hoc anº*

In 1426 the Wardens were minded to build a "new Chapel to our Lady," apparently carried out beyond the former altar to her honour; encouraged, perhaps, by a legacy of 12d. from Philip Towker, *ad edificationem nove capelle*.

Their mode of procedure included no architect, plan, or contract, apparently. The items will be found in the roll.

(11). "8d. p. c. lathes ad faciendam laticiam fenestris turris;" also, 1532,—18s. 1½d. is set down for repairing and pointing the tower, and 4s. for a load of stone tiles for it.

(12). In 1400 occurs, "*de loco ubi campanile stat 4s.*," a charge which goes on to 1527.

(13). In 1484 one of the bells was taken to Bristoll, at an expense of 5s. 6d. for carriage there and back, and cost 41s. for re-casting, and 1s. for re-hanging in the *campanile*,—equal to about £30 now. 1518.—Paid to Walter Merch for hanging the second bell, and for nails and bolts, 16d. Paid to Thomas Belleter de Borstellis (Bristol), £4 13s. 4d.; and for repair of the bawdrykes, 4s. 2d.

The latest attempt in church improvement seems to have been in 7th Elizabeth, when chimes were added to the clock :—" *xxd.* payd to the chime maker yn earnest of his bargane ; payd to Mr. Walle yt the churche owed him, *xxs.*, wyche *xxs.* he hathe given to ye makynge of the chime ; *ijli.* layd out toward the makynge of the chime ; *xiijs.* to the chime maker ; *xijd.* for makynge of a hammer for the chimes, with wyre to the same ; *vis. xd.* for led and castyng of a peysse for the chime." The clock itself was a very early institution, and the man who kept it got 4s. a year ; after the chimes were made this was increased to 8s.

In 1426 occurs a charge of 1d. for preparing the floor of the Church, for the putting up of seats. May we date the custom of seats from that year? There are several notices of seats afterwards.

1441.—*8d. pro una sede de Thom. Bradwey.*

1494.—*2d. pro sede una in ecclesia de Eleanor Tyer.*

1520.—*4d. pro una sede in ecclesia hoc anno.*

1435.—There is mention of a dove-cote belonging to the parish,  
" *de W<sup>o</sup> Phelpys pro fine Columbarii, xls.*" 1490, it  
paid *ijs.* for rent.

1487.—Occurs, "*xd. pro corona conducta Regi Attumnali isto anno.*"

1490.—"*viid. pro corona conducta Regi Attumnali isto an<sup>o</sup>*"

1492.—"*de viiij<sup>d</sup>. receptis pro corona conducta ad Salford isto an<sup>o</sup>, et de xij<sup>d</sup>. receptis de Rege Attumnali pro corona ei conducta isto an<sup>o</sup>*"

These entries the late learned Canon Lysons explained to mean, "A Coroner's quest held by the King's Attorney ; *Crowner's quests* did not always relate to inquiries into deaths, but general legal matters."

There is little reference to Visitations till the Reformation times. I find only these :—

1370.—"*In una presentacione coram archidiacono, ijs.*"

1441.—"*vjd. sol: in potacione in die Visitacionis.*"

1532.—"*de ijd. pro una billa facta et exhibita in Visitacione.*"



1534.—“*jd. sol: in Visitacione domini Cantuarensis;*” marking the year of the metropolitan Visitation by Cranmer.

Subsequently the entries of expenses, not only for the wardens, but for various parishioners, apparently summoned or encouraged to attend, with their horses' keep and their own, are very numerous.

1547.—1st Edw. VI. 6d. to a clerk makyng our byll at a Visitation held at Stalle Church, of 8d. paid hoths (oaths) at the s<sup>d</sup> Visitation. 18d. p<sup>d</sup> to them of y<sup>e</sup> parishioners that appered, for i daye for mete and drynke, jd. for papers at y<sup>e</sup> Visitation at Wells. 18d. of further costs repayd them that apperyd at y<sup>e</sup> Visitation. 3s. 4d. for y<sup>e</sup> costs of persons that did appere at the s<sup>d</sup> Visitation. 6s. for wrytyng and other charges at the Byshop's Visitation. 2d. for wrytyng a byll at the Visitation before Mychaelmas. 4d. for expenses upon the 4 that apperyd at y<sup>e</sup> Visitation.

1551.—3s. 4d. for expenses goynge 2 tymes to y<sup>e</sup> Ordynarys Visitation.

It must be confessed that dinners and potations were rare and frugal in early times, but after the Reformation they were much more frequent and costly, and money “to make the ringers drink,”<sup>14</sup> on various festive occasions, then first appears. Wine is rarely mentioned in early rolls; in 10th Elizabeth appears, “5d. for a quarte of seke (*sack*) that was given to the Byshope's offycyall at his beyng here,” but that was an unusual extravagance.”<sup>15</sup>

The Reformation, of course, swept away the old Roman ceremonial entirely. The high altar was pulled down—3rd Edward VI, 1550,—at a cost of 16d., and 6d. for “washing

(14). 10th Elizabeth occur “12d. to the ryngers to ryng when the Duke came yn.”—What Duke was this? 12d. to make the ryngers drynke when they rung ye daye of ye remembrance of ye Crownasyon of our Queene's Grace.

(15). Beer is the drink usually named; 2d. furnished enough for five or six persons. 1518, 8s. is set down as received “*de servisia facta per J. Wodeward ad proficium dicte ecclesie hoc anno;*” and 10s. at another time. The making of beer occurs in many other similar accounts.

the altar place with lyme." In 1552 occurs, "for the stufe and makynge the Communyon table, 6s. 8d.; and 8s. to a carpet to the same;" and 2s. for the Servyse Boke in Inglysche." There is nothing about a Bible till 14th Elizabeth, when "the owlde Bible" was sold for 6s. 8d., and "20s. paid to William Sherstone, towards the payment of the new Bible."

1551.—Occurs: Gevyn by y<sup>e</sup> consente of y<sup>e</sup> paryshioners towards the byldynge of y<sup>e</sup> Market house 40s.

The fabric of the Church was allowed to get into bad order till "the Queen's Majestie" came to Bath, and then both S. Michael's and Stalls' Church were repaired, and the windows glazed, for her reception. "56s. 8d. for glazing the west window and mending others; 4s. 4d. for the south window; 4s. for the east window in the isle next the chancel; 4s. 4d. for mending window in Stalles' Church." As to the minister, he appears to have been left to starve. In 1551 the wardens gave him 20d. "towards hys lyvynges;" and two years earlier 6d. is set down "to the two procurators sekyng y<sup>r</sup> good wyll and gentilnes towards the parson's levynge." In 1563 I find "3s. 4d. for wages for the parson payd at Pensford," at the Archdeacon's visitation, and the largest sum given is—1573—"17s. 6d. payd toward the parson's wages."

The Abbey and Abbey Church fell almost into ruins. 2nd Edward VI, occurs, "16d. for tyles and 2d. for their carriage from the Abbaye," and 17th Elizabeth, "*Paide for cariadge of ij lode of stone from the Abbay to the guildehalle vijld.*," which, I imagine, was used as a sort of quarry, from which building materials could be procured.

S. Michael's, together with Stalles' Church, S. James's, and S. Mary's, were annexed to the Abbey parish, and their ministers were provided by the rector. Their separate property was nearly all ruthlessly confiscated.

One more Roll deserves notice. There are two pieces of parchment sewed together, the first being very much stained, and difficult to read. It is not a churchwarden's account

at all, but "the accompte of the Chamberlayne of the cittie of Bath, before] Mr. William Cavell, Mayor of the said cittie, and of hys brethren the Aldermen, and the xxiiij being the comon counsell of the said Cittie, the 10th June, in the seven-teenthe yeare of our Sovereign Ladye Queen Elizabeth."

As in this there are occasional notices of Church expenses, I conceive the Corporation, to which the advowson of the Abbey parish was assigned, took upon itself the repairs of the fabric of S. Michael's and the other parish Churches, and all parochial works, for which no separate funds seemed to have survived the general scramble for Church property.

Mention is made of "Rent of Scole Lands," given by Edward VI out of the spoils of the Abbey for the Grammar School, and of "£12 paid to Mr. Conye, the Schole Master." There are notices of considerable works on the Conduit,<sup>16</sup> the King's Bath, the Cross Bath, and the Guildhalle. "The Bellman" appears to have been a personage of importance; not merely going about crying things in the streets, but an official who directed public works, "dressed the Church with greene," and "cleaned the Tankarde," besides ringing on great occasions. "Four yards and half of black frise" were bought for this functionary's coat, "at 20d. the yard,<sup>17</sup> against the Queen's majestie coming," on which

(16). Charges bestowed uppon ye Conduite, 17th Elizabeth (1575). Pd. ye plomber for soder for without-ye-gates-Conduite, and for workmanshipp, 8s. 4d.; to the bellman for cordes for the pipes, 4d.; to ffort for mending S. James' pipe, 7d.; to a chandeler for tallowe that the bellman used about ye Conduite, 3d.; more to a laborer, helping ye bellman the same tyme, 9d.; more to the plomber, 8 lbs. and a half of soder, and for my own labor aboute Stalles pipe, 8s. Pd. to Hew Hill for helping the bellman two days, 12d. Pd. for the cariadgo of one load of stones to the Conduite house at St. James', 20d.; to Ric: Tibbetts and Th: Slappe, the fre masons, for 6 daies worke apeace, at 12d. per daie at the same Conduite house, 12s. Pd. to Jo: Biddell, the laborer, for 3 daies worke at the same place, 21d., at 7d. per daie; nailes on the same Conduite, 3d.; to the lockier for a locke for ye same, 12d.; to ffort for soder for St. James' 4 pipes, 4s.; to hym for Stawles' pipes, 2s. 8d.; to flytche for bordes and divers other things at divers tymes for the pipes as appeareth by hysbyll, 17s. 6d.

(17). This entry points to a visit of Queen Elizabeth to Bath, in 1574, of which I see no mention in the histories of the city. She was there in 1592, when she granted the Corporation a charter; but as she was at Bristol in 1574, and on her return was at Lacock, Longleat, Heytesbury, and other places, it is difficult to see how she could avoid passing through Bath.

occasion "12s. 8d. was paid to the tapster of the Harte for the Gentleman Usher and hys companys dynner."

There is much about the erection of "butcher's stalls," paving in various places, and in particular "before the Cornish Chough;" 12d. appears "for dressing the towne gelding that was lame," also £4 13s. 4d. to the Painter of Salisbury for his worke done at Westgate, the King's Bath, and Northgate, and "3d. paid to Mr. Waye for making ye certificate for eating of fleshe," at the Visitation, which appears to have been held at S. Michael's, at Stalls' Church, at Pensford, Keynsham, and Wells, as might be convenient.

These accounts are all worth giving at full length, and therefore further notice of them may be here spared.

The Rolls furnish considerable information concerning the price of labour and materials for building, from the latter end of the 14th century to the early part of the 16th. Whatever may have been the relative value of money, the nominal prices were nearly the same until the beginning of the 16th century, when a sudden and very considerable rise in the value of labour is observable.

The items are very numerous, and of course the same are repeated continually, so that specimens will serve to represent the whole. It should be observed that in the earlier rolls *time and quantities* are not specified, so that the sums named cannot be used with any accuracy; in the later ones this is remedied:—

1460.—J. Attekyns, a mason, received 6d. a day, 6s. for 12 days' work, and his assistant had 3d. a day; 21½ dosseris (basket-loads) of helme cost 4d. a load, 7s. 2d.; 2,700 spykes cost 1½d. a hundred, 3s. 4½d.; a seme (8 bushels), of thorns for a hedge cost 3d., stakes for the same, 1½d.

At this time the expression *ad th*: occurs frequently, e.g., *T. Glovere, for mending a tenement two days ad th*: 6d. It has been suggested to me that this is *ad theloneum*, or *teloneum*, i.e., according to estimate; thus, *Galfredus, the carpenter, for making 2 ladders ad th*: in gross, 2s. 4d.



- 1462.—A sack of lyme cost 5d. ; freestone for W. Abyngdon's chimney, 4s. ; and for making a wall at the same, 3s. 2d. ; and J. Pompe for making the chimney and wall *in gross*, 9s ; tiles for tiling there *ad th* : 2s. 6d. ; for tyle pynnys and nayles, 1d. ; for tiles, 2d. ; for hay, 1d. ; and J. Hampton for one wagon load of stone, 2s. 6d.
- 1463.—Robert Tyler and his assistant for working on the Church  $x\frac{1}{2}$  days, at 12d. per day, 10s. 6d. ; yet the same Robert Tyler received for working at the tenements of 5 persons  $18\frac{1}{2}$  days, 4d. a day, 6s. 2d. 200 lathes cost 2s. ; 600 tyle stones, 6s. 8d. ; 5 bushels of lyme, at 2d. a bushel, 10d. R. Smyth received for 10 days' work thatching, at 5d. a day, 4s. 2d. ; and his labourer at 3d. a day, 2s. 6d. A wagon load of straw cost 30d. Nicolas at-the-Wode received for making 7 perches of wall, at 5d. a perche, 2s. 11d. Richard Smythe received for 1,200 spykes for 2 tenements, at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 100, 18d. ; and for his work, 3 days at 5d., 15d. ; and John Kyngman, his man, 9d. 2 pieces of wood for a byddynge beame, and supporting the cowpelle, 3s. 4d. ; for sawing the said piece, 3d. Galfredus Carpentere, for his work there, 3s. 4d. For making a herthe in the cottage of R. Barone, and all necessary materials, 20d.
- 1465.—1,000 stone tyles cost 6s. 8d. ; as much as 600 cost 3 years before. 300 planks for repairing a solarium, 6s. Galfredus Carpentere, with his assistant, hired for 4 days *ad th* : to make the said solar, 4s. To Lawrence for studying, breydand, thereat, with three stappys of stone and plastrand the said wall, for 2 days *ad th* : 15d. ; and for *gomphis et vertinellis* (latches and bolts) for the doors of the said house, 6d. ; for stone, 8d. ; for rods, 6d. ; nails, 10d. ; thorns for the hedges of the garden, 20d. ; wooden stakes, 9d. ; 1 leaden gutter, weighing  $200\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., 13s. 11d. ; sowder for the same, 3d. ; a plumber for putting it up, 4d. ; a tyler hired j day *ad th* : 6d. G. Carpentere,



for hewing out 4 stakes of elm, with his assistant,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  day *ad th*:  $16\frac{1}{2}$ d.; for sawing the said stakes, containing 400 feet, at 12d. a hundred, 4s.

1468.—A tyler received 6d. a day; 200 pair of tyles cost 18d.; 700 tyle pynnes, 5d. For free stone (*lapidibus liberis*) to make a chimney, 4s., and carriage of it, 2s.; dinner for the Waynemen, 2d.; making the said chimney, 7s.

1469.—For 2 wagon loads of stone tyles, 6s. 8d.; 4 sacks of lyme, 20d.; 18 basket loads of helme, 5s. 9d.; carriage of the same, 2s.; to J. Brokeman for work, 5 days, 2s. 8d.; to J. Courte, his assistant, 20d.; for splices, 2s. 8d.; for 2 hurdell, 7d.

1473.—Richard Gaddepathe one day's work at a new tenement, 5d. The same 5 days work at 4d. a day, 20d. Paid Robt. Chepman for a new tenement, 47s. 3d.; Galfred Carpenter,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  days, at 12d., 15s. 5d.; materials for that work, 5s.; hokes and twystes, 1s. 6d.; nails, 2s.; 5 cartings (*cariagiis*) of Westyn (Weston) stone, at 6d. each, 2s. 6d.; 6 dossen of sand, at 6d, 3s. A tyler, 15 days, at 6d a day, 7s. 7d.; tyle pynnyng 2d, lathes, 2d.; lathe nayles,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 5 packys of mease, at 5d. a pack, 2s. 1d.; J. Smythe at the said tenement *in tasco*, 2s.; 3 semes of rods for making the enterclose, 9d. A dabber working on 5 tenements, 3s.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.; a mason, 10 days at 6d, 5s.; David Sawere, for sawing 200 bordes, 2s.; 14 twystes, 12 hokes, and 4 staples, 3s. 8d. 5 planks for the tenement of Hugh Jeffrey, at 6d., 2s. 6d. To one Jachare, working on a tenement 3 days, taking for himself and his man, 9d., 2s. 3d.; John Smythe pro emendacione de le locke in the Tower, 1d.

1477.—J. Smythe *in tasco* at a tenement, 4s. 8d.; making a tablement at the same, 5d.; a stonemason making a wall, 5d.; a carpenter making lyntryn for a door and window, 2d.; a Jachare,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days, at 6d., 2s. 3d.; his man, 18d.

1478.—2 dosyns crestes, 2s. ; paper for writing bill, 1½d. ; J. Taylor, for digging 8 semes of sand, 2d. ; for carrying the same, 4d. ; a sack of sand, 5d. ; 1 packe of mosse, 5d. ; John thatching, 1½ day, 9d. ; his man, 6d. ; a tyler, for tyling and setting up 15 crestes, 1½ day, 8½d. ; a mason making 14 perches of wall, at 3d. a perch, 3s. 6d. ; mending 2 flores of rooms, 2½d. ; slates for same, 3d. ; 1 day at ye same, 5d. ; T. Roche, digging sand, one day, 4d. ; 5 dosyns of helme, 20d. ; T. Strong, for 2 days and part of a day, at 6d., 14d. ; 400 spekes, 4d. For 8 bordes of oak, 20d. ; a carpenter squaring one piece of timber, 1 day, 6d. ; a thatcher, 2 days, 12d. ; his man, 8d. ; 1 seme of roddes, 3d. ; a mason, one day, 5d., for making 400 spekes of the refuse of ye said roddes, 2d. Paid to J. Smyth, of Lanregge (Langridge) for 1 seme of oak sclattes to make logges of one door and window, and stodes, and mend other defects, 3d. ; 5 lbs. rosyn, for 3 gutters, 5d. ; 1 lb. talow, for the same, 1d. ; R. Smyth, for picking said gutters, 2d. For 2 oaks to make 1 copille, with the things pertaining to the tenement of J. Smythe, mason, 2s. 8d. ; Galfred Carpenter and his man for squaring, sawing, framing, and setting up the same, 6 days, at 6d, 3s. ; 1 labourer, for stodyng, frethyng, and dawbyng j poynyn, 2½ days, 10d. ; Galfred Carpenter, for paryng, hewyng, and planeyng 4 bordes and 5 logges of a new door, ½ day, 3d. ; j new twyste, and making another from material in stock, for said door, 2d. ; hachnayles, 1d. ; R. Smyth, for naylyng, hangyng, and dresyng the whole apparatus of said door, 2d.

1485. The hire of a horse was 4d. a day.

In 1531 the prices of labour seem to have continued the same.

A carpenter, 3 days *in tasco*, had 18d. ; 13 semes of thorns for a garden hedge, and a labourer at it 3 days, 3s. 8½d. ; a mason, 4 days, 16d. ; 12 dozen *culmi* (rods

for thatching), and a thatcher and man  $8\frac{1}{2}$  days *in tasco*, 7s. 1d. ; for 24 hundredis spicarum, 2s. ; a thatcher, one day *in tasco*, 5d. ; carriage of divers cart loads of stuff, with bread, meat and drink expended thereon (a new item) 8s.; ironwork employed in trussing the new bell, and a carpenter for taking down and replacing the said bell, with his meat and drink, and that of other workmen at the same, 5s. 1d. *Stipulator* now becomes *Culminer* and *Calamer*.

1550.—3 Edw. VI, a tyler received 7s. 8d. for  $xi\frac{1}{2}$  days work, 8d. a day.

1551.—A thatcher received 10d. a day and his server, 9d. Helme had risen to 10d. a dozen.

1554.—A mason received xis. 4d. for making a chimney, and his man, 6s. 6d.; stone for the chimney cost 8s., and its carriage, 4s.

1564.—A man received 1s. a day for white lyming the Church ; a tyler, 10d. a day ; a mason, 1s. a day ; a thatcher, 1s. a day. Helme rose to 1s. and 13d. a dozen.

1575. Freemasons received 1s. a day, and their men 7d. ; 70 yards of paving cost 8s. 9d. ; 4 lbs. of lead cost 4s. ; a quire of paper, 6d. ; beer, 3d. a gallon for labourers.

It will be observed that from Edward VI's reign the cost of labour of all kinds, skilled and unskilled, nearly doubled, and, if the difference in value of money be set at only five times as much as now, wages would seem to have been higher then than at the present day. The cost of wax, for making lights, varied apparently according to its quality, from 1s. to 4d. a lb.

From first to last no mention occurs of organs or any other musical instrument, unless an item for repairing *viol argenti* be one ; but it is more probably a silver cup.

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# Churchwardens' Accounts, S. Michael's, Bath.

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## No. 1.

### CIVITAS BATHON.

Computus Thome le Mason et Thome le Tannere procuratorum ecclesie beati Michaelis extra portam borealem ejusdem civitatis a die Dedicationis ecclesie predictae anno Domini Millesimo ccc<sup>mo</sup> xlix.

### ARRERAGIA.

Idem receperunt de xxij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de arreragiis ultimi compoti precedentis.

### REDDITUS.

Idem receperunt de ij<sup>s</sup> i ob. de redditu mesuagii Matildis Paket per annum.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> de redditu Agnetis la Wode.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> receptis de tenemento Joh<sup>s</sup> atte Halle.

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> receptis de Rogero le Toukere de mesuagio in Frog-gemerelane.

Summa v<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ob.

### NOVUS REDDITUS.

Idem receperunt de vj<sup>s</sup> receptis de Rogero Clyware pro tribus terminis. bid. de terminis Hock',\* Nativitate Sti Joh<sup>s</sup> Bapt. et Sti Michaelis.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> de Philippo le Smythe solvendis ad predictos terminos.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> receptis de Joh : Gregori.

Summa x<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>

### PERQUISITA.

Idem receperunt de ij<sup>s</sup> legatis in testamento Willi de Wyke ad unum missale.

\* This word is written sometimes Hokke, and Hocktyde and Hokday. It marks a period 15 days after Easter. It occurs in similar documents elsewhere in the 16th century.



Et de ix<sup>d</sup> ob. de collectionibus contra Natale Domini.

Et de xi<sup>d</sup> de collectionibus contra Pascha.

Et de xx<sup>s</sup> de legacione Joh<sup>s</sup> Michel pro anniversario suo et aliis tenendis per an.:

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> receptis de J. Annatt.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> de j velamine de cerico vendito.

Et de 5<sup>d</sup> de j alio velamine de cerico vendito.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> de veteribus pannis ad dictam ecclesiam legatis venditis.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> de j veteri olla\* enea de j lagena vendita.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> de una olla enea vendita.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> de veteri bosco de tenemento Roberti Golde vendito.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> de veteri bosco de tenemento Ade Storche vendito.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de lano vendito ex legacione uxoris Thome Stote.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> de herbagio gardini Ade Storche.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> de herbagio gardini propinquorum etc.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> de candelis venditis Roberto le Doyere.

Summa lij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa tocus recepte iij<sup>li</sup> xij<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

#### RESOLUCIO REDDITUM.

Item computus solutionum pro anniversariis in eadem ecclesia et aliis de veteri per annum xij<sup>d</sup>

It. in Anniversario Ade Storche et aliorum per v vices per annum v<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

It. in Anniversario Joh<sup>s</sup> de Budestone et aliorum per vices ix<sup>d</sup>

It. in Annivers<sup>o</sup> Ricardi Golde v<sup>d</sup> ob.

It. in Annivers<sup>o</sup> Roberti Golde et aliorum v<sup>d</sup> ob.

It. in Annivers<sup>o</sup> Thome de Bristolte ij<sup>s</sup> et omnia hoc anno primo.

It. solut. pro langabulo hoc anno ij<sup>s</sup> ob.

It. solut. Coffrario Civitatis Bathonie xij<sup>d</sup>

It. solut. procuratori communitatis ij<sup>d</sup> de tenemento quod fuit Roberti Golde.

It. solut. filio Roberti Golde pro quodam mesuagio ab eis empto jacente juxta dictam ecclesiam xvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

\* Jars, probably used in dyeing. There is mention elsewhere of a dyeing house.

† Firewood.

It. solut. Rectori dicte ecclesie pro tenemento Roberti Golde a festo Circumcisionis Domini usque festum Sti Michaelis p.xl septimanis xx<sup>d</sup>

It. solut. dicto Rectori de tenemento Ade Storche ad festum Sti Mich<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

It. solut. pro rudying'\* tenementum Roberti Golde xviii<sup>d</sup>

It. solut. procuratori communitatis vj<sup>d</sup> de mesuagio quod Will<sup>s</sup> Cubbel tenet de dicta ecclesia.

It. pro iiij cartis de novo sabendist† ij<sup>s</sup>

It. Rectori pro denariis‡ beati Petri vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

In annivers<sup>o</sup> Joh<sup>s</sup> Columbel die Sti Martini x<sup>d</sup>

In coreo empto pro libro missali involvendo ij<sup>d</sup>

It procuratori dicte ecclesie iiij<sup>d</sup> de Annivers<sup>o</sup> Ade Storche.

Summa xxxviii<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

# EXPENSA.

In—li cere emptis contra Natale Dom<sup>i</sup> iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> precium li—

In factura ejusdem vi<sup>d</sup>

In lichil|| empt i<sup>d</sup>

In iiij<sup>li</sup> cere emptis contra Pascha iiij<sup>s</sup>

In factura ejusdem i<sup>d</sup> ob.

In dimidia li. cere pro ij torchis emendendis vj<sup>d</sup>

In factura eorundem iij<sup>d</sup>

In j<sup>li</sup> cere pro cereo Ade Storche ad pedes Ste Katerine xij<sup>d</sup>

In factura ejusdem ob.

In oleo empto pro lampade x<sup>d</sup> ob.

In ij cereis de novo factis ad pedes Sti Michaelis j<sup>d</sup>

It. in Watelrys§ emptis xx<sup>d</sup>

It. in stipulis emptis iiij<sup>d</sup>

In stipendio clerici ad illuminandum lampadem per annum j<sup>d</sup>

In stipendio j<sup>s</sup> lotricis pro vestimentis et aliis ornamentis lavandis ij<sup>d</sup>

\* A West of England term for *rubbing smooth, polishing*.

† Sabanum is cotton cloth. Possibly this may mean lining papers with cloth to prevent tearing.

‡ Peter pence—an item of continual occurrence, always the same amount.

|| I cannot find this word, but fancy it means *lichino, wick for candles*.

§ ? Wattles, *i.e.*, hurdles elsewhere occurs ijs vjd pro virgis emptis ad faciendum unum Watele, et de xxd pro factura unius Watele,—they must, however, have been much larger than modern ones. They were used largely in building.

In stipendio procuratoris per annum iij<sup>d</sup>

In parcamento empto pro compoto faciendo i<sup>d</sup>

Solut pro j<sup>mo</sup> libro missali empto xlvj<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Summa lx<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> ob.

(On the back.)

#### STIPENDIUM.

In stipendio clerici pro compoto faciendo iiij<sup>d</sup>

In pane et cervisia emptis pro expensis procuratoris per idem  
tempus iij<sup>d</sup>

Summa tocius expense iiij<sup>li</sup> xix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

et sic ex<sup>d</sup>\* vj<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

### No. 2.

Compotus: Johannes Wysdome et Robertus atte Jete procura-  
tores Ecclesie Sti Michaelis extra portam boriam Civitatis  
Bathon a festo undecim milia† virginum An<sup>o</sup> Dom<sup>i</sup> millesimo  
ccc<sup>mo</sup> sexagesimo quarto usque idem festum tunc proximum  
sequens anno revoluto.

#### REDITUS ASSISE.

Idem† receperunt de l<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de reditu assise ut patet per rentale  
ejusdem anni.

Summa l<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

#### NOVUS REDITUS.

Idem non receperunt quare stat ut prius, de iiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de novo  
reditu juxta ecclesiam predictam in parte boreali quod John<sup>s</sup>  
Salp' Emmote uxor sua et Agnes filia eorundem tenent ad  
terminum vite ut patet per unam denturam inter eosdem  
confectam.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> de uno curtillagio in Froggemerelane quod Hanricus  
clericus tenet ad terminum vite.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> de redditu unius cotagii sub portam extra Borialem  
Civitatis predictae quod Edithe atte Jete tenet ad terminum vite.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> unius tenementi quod Walterus le Webbe tenet ad  
terminum vite.

\* I imagine the word so copied is *exceunt*: the meaning is, that the Wardens  
leave office vjs vij<sup>d</sup> ob. out of pocket.

† Always *sic*.

‡ Between 1349 and 1364 the parish had thus acquired property yielding  
£2 10s 8d per ann., according to the rent roll.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> quod Thomas Skynnere tenet ad terminum vite.

Et de viij<sup>s</sup> de uno tenemento quod Joh<sup>s</sup> Lokyngtone tenet ad terminum vite.

Summa xxxj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

IN DEFECTU REDDITUM.—Erased.

DE DENARIIS RECEPTIS.

In xiiij denariis receptis de herbagio vendito de Curtillagio in Elmeheghe\* vendito.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> de busco vendito.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> de pomis in Elmheye predicta venditis.

Summa v<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

COLLECTIONES.

In ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob. q<sup>d</sup> receptis de una collectione erga festum Natalis Domini facienda.

Et de ij viij<sup>d</sup> ob. q<sup>d</sup> de una collectione erga festum Pasche facienda.

Summa v<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis iiij<sup>li</sup> xiiij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup>

EXPENSE.

EMPCIO CERE.

In xxi<sup>li</sup> cere erga festum Natalis Domini et erga festum Pasche emptis xiiij<sup>s</sup> precium li ix<sup>d</sup>

Item in ij<sup>li</sup> cere ad opus ecclesie emptis xix<sup>d</sup>

Item in uno li. cere ad idem opus vij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro dicta cere facienda et in pane et cervisia ad opus ejusdem tunc temporis ij<sup>s</sup>

In ij cerefrariis† de Rectore emptis ecclesie predictae xij<sup>d</sup>

Item in uno li. cere pro uno tortico faciundo erga festum Pasche x<sup>d</sup>

Item ad idem faciendum iij<sup>d</sup>

Summa xx<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> ob.

EMPCIO OLEI.

Item in una lagena olei et dimidio ad opus ejusdem ecclesie empti xxj<sup>d</sup>

Summa xxj<sup>d</sup>

EXPENSE.

In ulmorum‡ strudend in Elmehay in gross' ibidem xj<sup>d</sup> ob.

In duobus hominibus locatis per diem vj<sup>d</sup> ob. ad id faciendum

\* Elm-heghe, or Elm heye, seems to have been land adjoining the Avon, the pasture, fruits, trees, &c., of which formed part of the revenue of the Church.

† Probably cereferariis—candlesticks.

‡ Pruning from the elms.

- Item Will<sup>mo</sup> Hemkok per j diem iij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in pannis lavandis et j<sup>s</sup> aube\* ad opus ecclesie emendacione ix<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in uno obitu ad festum Natalis Domini pro anima Roberti de Wyke tenendo ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro eodem obitu erga festum Hock' ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in uno obitu ad festum Pentecostis pro anima dicti Roberti tenendo ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item ad festum Nativitatis beati Joh<sup>s</sup> Bapt<sup>e</sup> tenendo ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item ad festum S<sup>i</sup> Michaelis tenendo ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro oracionibus ad la Guldhall ad festum Pentecostis iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in emendacione suppelicii† clerici parochialis ecclesie predice j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in j<sup>no</sup> processionale ligando‡ ad opus ecclesie xij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in i<sup>no</sup> fenestro vitreo pacato et in partem solucionis paccatam|| Joh<sup>i</sup> Colynborne vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in cervisia empti pro dicto fenestro faciendo ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro Laungabulo xvj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro redditu Episcopo per an : xij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item Domino Hospitalis Seti Joh<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item Coffrariis apud la Gild halle vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item uno lampade coram altare Seti Egidii illuminando j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro stipendio procuratoris ecclesie per an : xij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in membrano pro compotu faciendo ij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in expensis circa compotum faciendum, viz., in pane ij<sup>d</sup> in cervisia v<sup>d</sup> in piss'§ iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in uno clerico locato ad faciendum compotum et aliis necessariis compoti per an : xij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item Alicie de Wyke pro defectu redditus quod Will<sup>s</sup> Burrell tenet v<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item Joh<sup>i</sup> Wheler pro uno tenemento vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in obitibus celebratis citra festum Pasche prout per diversa tempora patet iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

\* Albe. The words are used indifferently : aube, albe, or even awbe.

† Surplice.

‡ Binding.

|| A window contracted for, and part of the cost paid.

§ Perhaps pissa hygra, *ύγρὰ*, liquid pitch for ink ?



Item in obitibus celebratis in diversis temporibus per annum  
unum prout per rentale xvij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>

Summa iij<sup>li</sup> xij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa totalis expensarum iij<sup>li</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> xij<sup>d</sup>

DEBITA.

De Joh<sup>e</sup> Wysdome x<sup>s</sup> de Waltero Webbe iij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

de Joh<sup>e</sup> Stratton ij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> de Will<sup>mo</sup> Ermyte iij<sup>d</sup>

de Will<sup>mo</sup> Kynnyngtone iij<sup>d</sup> de Edithe Hope. ob.

de Robto. atte Jete xij<sup>d</sup>

Item custode procuratore v<sup>s</sup>

Summa xxiiij<sup>s</sup> ob.

Summa expensarum v<sup>li</sup> vij<sup>s</sup> i<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa totalis x<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>d</sup> ob. q<sup>d</sup>

Et sic debet de claro xiiij<sup>s</sup> . . .<sup>d</sup> Et solvit statim post auditum  
compoti, et sic vadit quietus etc.

Et sic procuratores supervenientes onerantur cum dictis xiiij<sup>s</sup> . . .<sup>d</sup>  
videlicet, Joh<sup>s</sup> Wysdome et Ric<sup>s</sup> Clewere.

No 7.

BATHONIA.

Compotus Ric<sup>di</sup> Gladewyre et Thome Atte Mede procuratorum  
ecclesie Scti Michaelis extra ibidem a die dominica proxima  
post festum undecim milia virginum anno dom<sup>i</sup> Millesimo  
tricentesimo sexagesimo nono usque idem diem dominicam  
tunc proxime sequentem Anno Dom<sup>i</sup> Millesimo ccc<sup>mo</sup> septua-  
gesimo de omnibus suis receptis expensis et liberacionibus.

ARRERAGIA.

Et de xxxv<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> de arreragiis ultimi compoti anni precedentis ut  
patet in pede ejusdem compoti.

Summa xxxv<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

REDDITUS ASSISE.

Et de l<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> receptis de redditu istius anni ad quatuor anni  
terminos ut patet in rentale.

Summa l<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

ITEM REDDITUS DE NOVO.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> de redditu curtilagii quondam Henrici le Clerke quod  
Joh<sup>s</sup> Ory modo tenet.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> de redditu unius Selde quam Edithe atte Jete tenet  
juxta portam boriam extra partem occidentalem.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> de redditu tenementi quod Walterus Webbe tenet.  
 Et de vj<sup>s</sup> de redditu tenementi quod Rogerus Glovero tenet.  
 Et de viii<sup>s</sup> de redditu tenementi quod Joh<sup>s</sup> Lokyngtone tenet.  
 Et de viij<sup>d</sup> de redditu Stabuli in Frogmere lane.

Summa xxxviij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

#### RECEPTE.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> de c lathys venditis.  
 Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> de iiij<sup>or</sup> tabulis venditis de Walschborde\*  
 Et de iij<sup>s</sup> receptis de vestura arborum in la Elmheye vendita.  
 Et de ix<sup>d</sup> de tegulis venditis.

Summa vj<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

#### COLLECTIONES DENARIORUM.

Et de vij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> de denariis collectis ad lumen ecclesie ad festum  
 Nativitatis Domini et ad festum Pasche.

Summa vij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Summa tocus recepte vj<sup>li</sup> viij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

#### DEFECTUS REDDITUS.

In defectu redditus tenementi Will<sup>i</sup> Burell eo quod solvitur uxori  
 ejus nomine dotis v<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Item in defectu redditus tenementi quondam Johs. Whelare vj<sup>d</sup>

Summa vj<sup>s</sup>

#### RESOLUCIO REDDITUM.

In redditu soluto Coferariis Communitatis pro mesuagio Will<sup>i</sup>  
 Burell quod quondam Thomas de Brustoll tenuit xij<sup>d</sup>

Item soluto ad scaccariam Communitatis pro precibus pro  
 animabus Walteri Golde et aliorum iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item Magistro Seti Joh<sup>s</sup> de redditu diversorum tenementorum  
 ij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

Item Procuratoribus Communitatis pro tenemento Joh<sup>s</sup> Jolyfe. vj<sup>d</sup>

Item soluto Preposito pro langabulo domini Episcopi iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item eidem Preposito de redditu duarum seldarum juxta portam  
 boriam xij<sup>d</sup> per annum.

Item soluto Clerico parochie ad illuminandum lampadem coram  
 altare Seti Egidii quolibet die per annum ad missam j<sup>d</sup>

Item Rectori ecclesie de redditu tenementi Ric<sup>i</sup> Cleware iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 per annum.

Summa x<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

\* ? Walnut-board or wood. Walsh nut is Walnut, or Wainscotting. Welsch is used locally for foreign now, but all Germans look upon other folk as Welch.

## EXPENSE.

- In ij li cere emptis contra festum Nativitatis Domini xvj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in cera empta contra festum Pasche pro cereo Paschali et aliis. iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In factura cere per totum annum xv<sup>d</sup>  
 In oleo empto per totum xxiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In lavacione et emendacione pannorum et fila ad filandum parure\* et aliis. vi<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In ij zonis emptis pro vestimentis iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In Trocleist<sup>†</sup> emptis de Joh<sup>e</sup> Vadye pro uno dreye. v<sup>d</sup>  
 In bibere *drink*, factura j<sup>d</sup>  
 In tonsura de le Elmheye vij<sup>d</sup>  
 In ij serris et clavibus pro pixide cum Corpore Xti et crismate‡ viij<sup>d</sup>  
 In escambio sere de fonte Baptizantis iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In una presentacione coram Archidiacone ij<sup>s</sup>  
 In lyme empto iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In una sera cum clave pro hostio ecclesie xx<sup>d</sup>  
 In una fenestra vitriata xl<sup>d</sup>  
 In cooperacione murorum juxta hostium ecclesie ij<sup>d</sup>  
 In emendacione serarum et clavium in pulbito iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In ligacione librorum v<sup>s</sup>  
 Item in pellibus ovium cum filis et aliis ad eosdem libros xiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In emendacione pulbiti et aliorum sol : Joh<sup>i</sup> Vadyr vi<sup>d</sup>  
 In clavis ad tabulandum pulbitum ij<sup>d</sup>  
 In parcameno empto i<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In expensis et victualibus procuratorum et clerici facientis compotum vj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In carigio petrarum ad opus ecclesie iiij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa xxx<sup>s</sup>

## ANNIVERSIA.

- In omnibus anniversariis per annum preter anniv<sup>m</sup> Rob<sup>ti</sup> de Wyke xvij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ut patet in registro.

\* Apparels—ornamental pieces of embroidery, 5 in number, placed on Albs and Amices, on neck, wrists, and at the bottom of the vestment, before and behind.

† ? Wheels for a dray.

‡ Vessel to contain holy oil.

Item in anniv<sup>o</sup> Rob<sup>ti</sup> de Wyke per annum—hoc anno.

In stipendio procuratoris per annum xij<sup>d</sup>

Summa xix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Summa omnium expensarum lx<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Et sic debent lxij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> unde allocantur Walt<sup>o</sup> Webbe ex Stal  
ecclesie data sibi ix<sup>d</sup>

Et clerico facienti computum xij<sup>d</sup>

Et sic debent de claro lxj<sup>s</sup> quos solvunt Ricardo Gladwyne et  
Rob<sup>to</sup> Boole de novo electis et sic sunt quieti ; unde allocantur  
Joh<sup>i</sup> Gregory et Joh<sup>i</sup> Nactone xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> quos ipsi ob antiquo  
accommodaverunt capelle beate Marie et sic debent xlvij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
quod solvunt et sunt quieti.

BATHONIA.—1371.

Computus Ric<sup>di</sup> Gladwyne et Rob<sup>ti</sup> Bole procurat: ecclesie Scti  
Michaelis extra, a festo die dom<sup>ca</sup> proxima post festum undecim  
milia virginum an<sup>o</sup> regis Edv<sup>i</sup> tercii post conquestum quadra-  
gesimo quarto usque idem domenicam extunc proximam  
sequentem an<sup>o</sup> ejusdem regis xl quinto per j<sup>m</sup> annum integrum.

Arrears as by last Roll received.

Rents of Assise as before.

New rents as before.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob. de ix tabulis venditis.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> de bacchys\* venditis hoc anno.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> de j semat<sup>†</sup> de lyme vendita.

Et de iii<sup>d</sup> de redditu j olle enee locate a termino Hokke usque  
ad festum Scti Mich<sup>s</sup> hujus anni per dimidium annum.

Et de xv<sup>d</sup> de denariis collectis ad pavimentum ex opposito  
hostiorum ecclesie.

Summa iiiij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Collectiones denariorum as before vij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

Summa tocius recepte vj<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> ob.

Payments as before.

Summa x<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

EXPENSE NECESSARIE.

In xv<sup>li</sup> cere emptis ad opus ecclesie viij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>, sic li ad vij<sup>d</sup>, et in  
factura cere xj<sup>d</sup>

In cariagio petrarum vj<sup>d</sup>

\* Jars.

† Measure of eight bushels.

In una corda empta propter velum quadragesimale j<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In oleo empto xxj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In vij<sup>li</sup> cere iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij ob. sic li. ad vij ob.  
 In unco cereo empto ad Jornale\* viij<sup>d</sup>  
 In mundacione et reparacione vestimentorum et pannorum et  
 aliorum vj<sup>d</sup>  
 In reparacione calcetef juxta ecclesiam iijs vj<sup>d</sup>  
 In uno portiforio† empto xxij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 In emendacione calicis vij<sup>d</sup>  
 In j clave empto ad coffer ecclesie vj<sup>d</sup>  
 In parcameno empto j<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 In expensis procuratoris et clerici arraiantis|| compotum viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Summa xlvj<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

Anniversaria, as before.

Summa xxj<sup>s</sup>

Summa omnium expensarum iiij<sup>li</sup> iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Postea onerantur de iiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> de redditu tenementi Joh<sup>s</sup> Salp anni  
 precedentis pro eo quod non onerantur superius inter redditus  
 predictos.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> de redditu ejusdem tenementi hujus an<sup>i</sup> et eo minus  
 quia allocatur vj<sup>d</sup> Joh<sup>i</sup> Salpe pro occupacione domus sue cum  
 capella beate Marie.

Unde allocantur eisdem xx<sup>d</sup> solutis domino Rogeri ad collectiones  
 sibi concessas de redditibus ecclesie.

Et clerico facienti compotum xij<sup>d</sup>

Et Ric<sup>do</sup> Gladewyne ex curialitate§ pro suo bono servicio vj<sup>d</sup>

Unde allocantur Thome Saltford de redditu domus sue vj<sup>d</sup>

Et Ric<sup>do</sup> Pochen seniori pro stipendio suo in capella Sete Marie  
 iiij<sup>s</sup> sic debent de claro lv<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

\* This must be a species of torch, though it is not so recognized by Ducange.  
*Jornale* is *daily*, and it may be a torch to burn for a day. In 1450 occurs,  
*in una cera vocata Jornalle*.

† Causeway.

‡ A Breviary.

|| Preparing; hence *arraying* anything.

§ Benevolence, in the technical sense of a *gift*, not a *payment*.



## No. 9.

1376.

Anno Regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum xlvi<sup>to</sup> usque dictum diem an<sup>o</sup> ejusdem Regis xlvij<sup>mo</sup>

## COLLECTIO DENARIORUM.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> de vestura arborum in le Elmeheghe.

Et de xiijs viii<sup>d</sup> de meremio\* vendito ibidem.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> de una olla enea locate per annum.

Et de jd ob. de redditu j olle enee locate per unum quartionum anni.

Et de xvi<sup>d</sup> de lucro js olle enee capte per districtionem pro redditu Joh<sup>s</sup> Lokyngtone senioris et vendite.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> de dim<sup>o</sup> c laqueorum† vendito.

## EXPENSE.

In mest† empte ad opus ecclesie iiij<sup>d</sup>

In stipendio js tegulatoris tegulanti super capellam iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

In extrenneo‡ dato Matheo de Buclone ijs iiij<sup>d</sup>

In reparacione et ligacione j libri ij<sup>d</sup>

In filis emptis ad Webethredell ad cereos sacramentales et alia iij<sup>d</sup>

## LIBERATIO DENARIORUM.

Liberatis Joh<sup>i</sup> Nactone pro meremio emendo ad opus ecclesie  
 ————— iiij<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup> per tallium§ quoad eundem.

Item lib : carpentario pro dicto meremio perscapulando¶ et aliis.  
 ————— xvij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> per tallium quoad eundem.

Summa cvij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

## No. 10.

1377.

Compotus Joh<sup>is</sup> Fadure et Will<sup>mi</sup> Horlingham a die dom<sup>ca</sup> prox : post festum Omnium Sactorum An<sup>o</sup> regni Regis Ricardi primo, usque die dom<sup>ca</sup> ante festum Sctorum Simonis et Jude an<sup>o</sup> Ric<sup>di</sup> secundo.

\* Rough timber for building.

† Ropes. Probably they had a rope-walk.

†† Al : mees, cloth.

‡ Etrenne—present. Why given does not appear.

¶ Wicks.

§ Per tallium, or talliam ; the original is *tall'*,—by tale, or valuation.

¶ ? Thoroughly scraping.

REDDITUS ASSISE.

Et de lx<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de redditu assise una cum incremento redditum  
schoparum quas Th. Mason olim tenuit, redditus mesuagii  
Joh<sup>s</sup> Salpe. Summa lx<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Et de xxvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de redditibus legatis per Robt<sup>m</sup> Wike.

RECEPTE DENARIORUM.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> receptis de duobus procuratoribus.

Et de uno ollo eneo quod . . . Rolphe legavit ecclesie vendito  
pro iiij<sup>s</sup>

Item vendito uno ollo eneo Ric<sup>do</sup> Carter pro vj<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> quod Jalence  
Weler legavit predictæ ecclesie.

Et de xx<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> de Will<sup>mo</sup> Schepurd et de Joh<sup>ne</sup> Wisdome pro  
reparacione unius domi que fuit Margerie Contasse.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> recepto de Ric<sup>do</sup> Clewhere pro una domo in Brad stret.  
Summa xviij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

EXPENSE.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> in reparacione unius fenestre de glasse.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro uno tabulo empto altari Sete Caterine et ob. in  
clavis pro eo.

Et de vi<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob q<sup>d</sup>, pro x li sere emptis ad festum Natale Dni.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup> pro iij li sere emptis ad festum Pasche, et pro  
factura ejusdem duobus terminis xxij<sup>d</sup>

Et de vij ob. pro candelis de Judas\* ad festum Pasche.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> pro factura unius thorche de duabus.

Et de xxij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro iij li sere emptis ad pedem Scti Michaelis.

Et de factura ejusdem j<sup>d</sup> ob.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro oleo empto per totum annum.

Et de emendacione unius Chesiple† et unius surplice ij<sup>d</sup>

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> quod procuratores habebant pro stipendio suo.

RESOLUCIONES, as before.

LIBERACIO DENARIORUM.

Item lib: Joh<sup>i</sup> Nattone ix<sup>s</sup> in partem solucionis pro factura  
ecclesie.

\* Vide Introduction, p. xii.

† Chasuble. The distinctive vestment in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

## No. 11.

Compotus Thome Rymyntone cum socio suo procurat : Ecclesie  
Seti Mich<sup>s</sup> extra portam Civitatis Bathonie.

An<sup>o</sup> Domi Millesimo ccc<sup>mo</sup> lxxxxj<sup>mo</sup>

## REDDITUS.

Et de iij<sup>li</sup> xij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ad quatuor anni terminos.

Et de domo Joh<sup>s</sup> Feydo vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item xx<sup>d</sup> de uno cotagio juxta Abbonam.

Item de tenemento Edithe Hopere viij<sup>s</sup>

Item de cotagio apud Wallecote iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

## ET DE NOVO REDDITU.

Et de dono Robti Wyke xxvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Et de una olla vendita Rogero Towkere pro ix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Et de fine Nicolai Thechere pro domo Edithe Hopere vid<sup>t</sup> vi<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

## EXPENSE.

Pro cero empto pro Ffontapre\* j<sup>li</sup> et dim : ix<sup>d</sup>. pro factura ij<sup>d</sup>

Pro cero empto circa sepulcrum† ix<sup>s</sup> pro cero et factura.

Pro cero empto contra festum Pasche xiiij li pro torticis faciendis  
vijs

Item pro roseyne empto pro torticis v<sup>d</sup> pro factura torticorum viij<sup>d</sup>

Pro panno empto pro altaribus xxij<sup>d</sup>

## No. 12.

Compotus Radulphi Hunte et Will<sup>mi</sup> Taylour.

An<sup>o</sup> domini Millesimo ccc<sup>mo</sup> nonagesimo quarto.

Item receperunt primo adventu suo in presencia parochie  
xliiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Item predicti Procuratores se offerunt respondere de v<sup>li</sup> et xliiij<sup>s</sup>  
pro redditu per quatuor anni terminos principales.

Item de iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> quos Joh<sup>s</sup> Nactone burgensis de Coventre dedit  
ecclesie beati Michaelis extra exparte . . . . sui quondam  
Rectoris nostri.

Item et de j<sup>d</sup> pro lampade ardente per noctem circa funus.

\* The Font taper for baptisms. In the church accounts of S. Edmund's Salisbury, in 1505, occurs, xxxiiis. *pro le ffonte taperis*.

† A recess in the Church wall in which the Host was reserved on Maundy Thursday ; it was watched, and lights burned before it.

EXPENSE.

Et pro cera empta ad trabem\* et ad duos cereos pro elevacione sacramenti xiijs ix<sup>d</sup>

Pro confectione ejusdem xviijs<sup>d</sup> ad biberam j<sup>d</sup>

Item pro compecione unius novi rentalis xij<sup>d</sup> et pro copia testamenti.

Item in cera empta erga Pascha pro cereo paschali et quatuor aliis ceriolis continentibus viij li precii iij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro potello olei vij<sup>d</sup> ad lampades.

Item pro clave ad cistam in cancello.—

Item pro haspa pro vase aque benedictæ.—

Item pro locione unius albe et suppellicii j<sup>d</sup>

Item in lineo panno ad manicas abbe† que deservit altari beate Marie v<sup>d</sup> pro compecione j<sup>d</sup>

Expense circa reparacionem ecclesie et dealbacionem tam infra quam extra.

Imprimis pro arra ad tegulatorem qui texit ecclesiam j<sup>d</sup>

Item in calce et sabulo emptis ad ecclesiam vij<sup>s</sup>

Item in asscribus pro ‡supercilio ecclesie a Will<sup>mo</sup> Dyere viij<sup>d</sup>

Item in clavis emptis ad idem opus xiijs<sup>d</sup>

Item in || iij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item in tegulis emptis xiijs<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro celario tegulatorum xiijs<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro potacione ad operarios ii<sup>d</sup>

Item in celario capituli beate Marie vjs<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item in calce et zabulo§ ad ecclesiam iijjs<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup>

Item in celario tegulatorum viijs<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item in dimidio c tegularum vij<sup>d</sup>

In celario unius operarii ad dealbandam ecclesiam cum calce xviijs<sup>d</sup>

Item in calce et zabulo xv<sup>d</sup>

Item ijd<sup>d</sup> plumbario qui emendavit stillicidium

Item pro celario capituli beate Marie vs<sup>s</sup>

Item in tegulis pro ecclesia emptis a Will<sup>mo</sup> Taylour iij<sup>d</sup>

Summa lij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

\* The rood beam upon which lights were placed.

† Another form of Albe.

‡ Rafters for the roof of the Church.

|| Undecyphered.

§ Sabulo, a very common form in the early Rolls.

## ALLOCANCIE.

Quas predictæ procuratores exigunt pro certis redditibus et tributis que diversis hominibus persolverunt pro tenore reddituum pertinencium ecclesie predictæ parochiali xvj<sup>s</sup> prout manifeste patent in Rentali novo in quadam adula\* scripta in fine novi rentalis et iiij<sup>d</sup>

Pro anniversariis allocancia xxij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa posterior totalis vj<sup>li</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

## No. 13.

Compotus Johannis Draper et Johannis Harna custodes Ecclesie Beati Michaelis extra portam Borialem Civitatis Bathonie, Anno domini Milesimo cccc<sup>mo</sup>

In primis Johannes Draper recepit de redditu annuali Ecclesie, vj<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item recepit apud Nativitatem iij<sup>s</sup> ob.

Item in festo Pasche recepit iiij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

Item pro Notbemtref iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item de diversis rebus Thome Prentise venditis xij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro urticis venditis in Helhayze† iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro ligno vendito de Notebemetre iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro Croppis venditis de Helhayze iij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro urticis venditis ad Laurencium Webbe ij<sup>d</sup>

Summa hujus predictæ receptionis vj<sup>li</sup> xix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

Expençe hujus ecclesie sunt hec videlicet in cera, oleo, et aliis nesesariis ecclesie.

In primis in Cera Empta in diversis temporibus anni vij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup>

Item in confeccione ejusdem Cere xiiij<sup>d</sup>

Item in oleo empto in diversis temporibus anni xxiiij<sup>d</sup> et ob.

Item in parcamino ij<sup>d</sup>

Item in cordulis pro campanis in diversis temporibus emptis x<sup>d</sup>

Item in emendacione dexti j<sup>d</sup>

Item [in] emendacione turribuli iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item [in] confeccione paruris vestimentorum ij<sup>d</sup>

\* Summary.

† Apparently the name of some neighbouring forest, where the parish had a right to wood; but it never occurs again.

‡ Apparently a new reading of Elmhayes.



Item in filo pro cera j<sup>d</sup>

Item solutis ad Johannem Masun pro Cordulis et pungmb; (?) iij<sup>d</sup>

Item in clavis c pro confeccione feretri ij<sup>d</sup>

Item in candelis in die dedicacionis ij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item in clerico ad illuminandum lampadem j<sup>d</sup>

Item in Jantaculo procuratoris et clerici xij<sup>d</sup>

Item in clerico ad faciendum compotum xij<sup>d</sup>

Item in lotrice vj<sup>d</sup>

Item in confezione cere j<sup>d</sup>

Summa hujus percelli predicte xv<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob. q<sup>d</sup>

### ALLOWANCIA.

Allowancia pro diversis obitibus tentis in ecclesiis parochialibus

Bathonie xxij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item Allowancia pro diversis redditibus et langabulo in diversis

locis portatis xvj<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

Item Allocancia pro redditibus aretro portantibus viz. de domo

Willelmi Gore viijs

Item de domo Johannis Bole ix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Item de loco ubi campanile stat iiij<sup>s</sup>

Item allowancia de Aldeforde xx<sup>s</sup>

Summa allowancie Reddituum xxiiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Memorandum: quod parochiani tradiderunt Johanni Schutiche

procuratori ecclesie Beati Michaelis extra portam Borialem

Civitatis Bathonie xxij<sup>d</sup>

No. 14.

Comptus Walteri Riche et Roberti Bytelene *alias Dewe* (sic)

procuratores ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam Borialem a

festo undecim milia virginum usque ad eundem diem anno

domini Millesimo cccc<sup>mo</sup> tercio.

## RECEPCIO.

Recepcao xxxvij<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

## COLECCIO.

Coleccio ad festum Natalis domini et ad festum Pasche v<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro gras de Elmeye vj<sup>d</sup>

REDDITUS.

Redditus vj<sup>li</sup> iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

xvj<sup>s</sup> üj<sup>d</sup>

## PETIT ALLOCACIONEM.

Item petit allocacionem de ij<sup>s</sup> de domo Walteri Riche.

Item de domo Alleworde xx<sup>d</sup>

Item petit allocacionem de cotagio Johannis Wayre de iiij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>

Summa xxiiij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>

## EXPENSE.

In primis solvit pro ferro Ricardo Payforde iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro cera v<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ad festum Natalis domini.

Item pro factura cere xj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro cordis ad campanas quod solvit Roberto socio suo iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item solvit une seme spykys iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item ad emendendum ostium ecclesie j ob.

Item in Russynne\* ad lampadem j ob.

Item ad emendendum guter ecclesie vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro una corda jd ad tractandum pannum ante crucem in die palmarum.

Item pro factura cere ad festum Pasche v<sup>d</sup>

Item pro una lagena olei xj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro stramine et labore de thechynghe iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro uno pondere cere et factura vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro uno Banere xvij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro una lagena olei x<sup>d</sup>

Item jd in potacione quando quesierunt rotulas pro domo Walteri Webbe.

Item pro lingno viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro factura unius herse x<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lotrice vj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro gentaculo xij<sup>d</sup>

Isti sunt procuratores ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam Borialem electi per parachianos Walterum Riche et Johannem Hore socium ejus. Et Walterus Riche portabit Bursam hoc anno, et sic remanet in manu sua vii Marcas (sic) cum dimidio. iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> et quatuor calices et unum coclearium de argento et ix nodilia de argento.

\* ? Rosin.

No. 15.

Compotus Johannis Hore et Ricardi Hombrige procuratores  
ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam borialem a festo undecim  
millia virginum usque ad idem festum anno domini Millesimo  
cccc<sup>mo</sup> v<sup>to</sup>

RECEPTIS.

Item receptis de ——— v<sup>li</sup> ij<sup>s</sup>

Item de receptis ex legacione Rogeri Parmiter vj<sup>d</sup> pro torchis.

Item de receptis viij<sup>d</sup> quos habuerunt de Roberto Phelippe pro  
uxore sua.

Item in recepcione lampadis ij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro gras vendito viij<sup>d</sup> recepte in Elme ey.

Item pro lingno vendito xij<sup>d</sup>

Item in recepcione unius olle enee v<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item de receptis unius posnet\* xvij<sup>d</sup>

Item in recepcione ad festum Nathalis domini, et ad festum  
Pasche vij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item in recepcione cere de Phelippe Towkere pro uxore sua vj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lingno vendito iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item de receptis peters pans iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item in receptis in tylston xvj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro redditu unius libri ij<sup>d</sup>

Item de domo quem Angnes Chete dedit proximo anno nobis vij<sup>s</sup>

Item de domo Angnete Corbet ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item de domo quo Rogerus Horsman moratur vij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

EXPENSE.

Item in expensis pro emendacione unius domus vij<sup>d</sup>

Item in oleo vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro emendacione suppilicii j<sup>d</sup>

Item in potacione quando fecerunt compotum iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro redditu Regi nostro xij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro cera emptā ad festum Nathalis domini vj<sup>s</sup>

Item pro factura cere x<sup>d</sup>

Item pro factura cere ad festum Pasche v<sup>d</sup>

Item Judas Candeles j<sup>d</sup>

Item in spikys ob.

Item pro oleo iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

\* A skillet, or kitchen vessel.

Item pro emendacione unius beme j<sup>d</sup>

Item pro oleo iij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro factura cere ij pond : j<sup>d</sup>

Item pro gentaculo xij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro factura compoti xij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lotrice vj<sup>d</sup>

Item in oleo empto quart : iij<sup>d</sup>

**PETIT ALLOCUCIONEM.**

Petit allocucionem xxxij<sup>s</sup> iijj<sup>d</sup> quos solvit homini legis pro domo quondam Walteri Webbe.

Item petit allocucionem de iij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> quos solvit presbitero Sancto Marie.

Item petit allocucionem de vj<sup>d</sup> in Walcote Strete de domo Angneto Chete.

Item petit allocucionem de xxij<sup>d</sup> de domo Nicholai Abbot.

Item de tenemento Nicholi Rawele xij<sup>d</sup>

**PETIT ALLOCUCIONEM DE REDDITU.**

Petit allocucionem de redditu de xvj<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> in rentale.

Item petit allocucionem de domo quod Johannes Vayre quondam tenuit xij<sup>d</sup>

Item de domo Roberti Bolle quondam tenuit ij<sup>s</sup>

Item de domo Roberti Cartere quod nuper optinuit xij<sup>d</sup>

Item de domo de Alleworde xx<sup>d</sup>

Item petit allocucionem de domo Walteri Welere iijj<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis expensarum vij<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Isti sunt procuratores electi per parachianos Ricardus Honybryge et Rogerus Towkere socius ejus et Ricardus Honybryge portabit bursam et sic remanet in manu Ricardi Honibryge vij<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob. et iijj<sup>or</sup> calices j coclearius de argento et x nodilia de argento.

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**No. 16.**

1473.

Compotus Rogeri Hobbes et Roberti Walley Procuratores Ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam Borialem Civitatis Bathonie, a Festo undecem Millia virginum, A<sup>o</sup> regni regis Henrici quarti post conquestum Anglie xiiij<sup>mo</sup> usque idem Festum Anno proximo sequente.

\* \* \* \* \*

EXPENSE.

- In primis petunt Allocacionem pro una garba ad obturandam fenestram Ecclesie j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro labore obturantis ob.  
 Item in oleo empto iij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in candelis emptis servientibus in choro tempore matutinali in Festo Natalis domini j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in xviii<sup>lb</sup> cere emptis erga festum Natalis domini et Pasche vijs vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in factura cere erga Festum Natalis domini xij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in oleo empto vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro tabulis emptis ad ostia Johannis Peres et Johannis Syvyere et Agnetis Corbet xiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro clavis emptis pro dictis ostiis iij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro ledgis emptis pro eisdem ostiis j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item solutis Willelmo Wyke pro factura dictorum ostiorum vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro factura unius gutture in domo Johannis Syvyere ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in oleo empto xiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in emendacione unius sere j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in factura cerie fontis et unius cerie ardentis coram sepulcro et unius cerie diurnalis xj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in stramine empto ad domum Johannis Swon ijs  
 Item pro portacione ejusdem straminis iij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in stramine empto ad domum Johannis Seynlowe xvj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro portacione ejusdem ij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in Spykys emptis ad domos predicta xij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item solutis Johanni Davy pro cooperacione dictarum domorum xv<sup>d</sup>  
 Item aliis servientibus facientibus Spykys et ministrantibus circa laboracionem dictarum domorum ijs j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in portura vexille in Festo Pentecosten j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in oleo empto iij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in candelis emptis erga dedicacionem ecclesie ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in lotura vestimentorum vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro suacione unius Frenge ad frontellum panni altaris ob.  
 Summa xxiijs ob.



1415.

No. 17.

Compotus Ricardi Fforstere et Walteri Riche Procuratores Ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam Borialem Civitatis Bathonie a Festo undecem Millia virginum Anno regni regis Henrici quinti Post conquestum Anglie ij<sup>o</sup> usque idem Festum Anno proximo sequente.

## RECEPCIO.

In primis de iij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> receptis de Compotu prioris anni.  
 Item de ij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> collectis. ad trabem in festo Natalis domini.  
 Item pro ij torqys\* Thome Berwe iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro spina vendita j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in festo Pasche pro cereo fontis v<sup>s</sup> ob. collectis  
 Item pro anulo vendito x<sup>d</sup>  
 Item de xiiij<sup>d</sup> receptis de sacris candelis.  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> ob. de denariis Petri collectis.  
 Item de Johanne Roche xl<sup>s</sup> pro fine domus sue.  
 Item pro vestura que dabantur ecclesie x<sup>d</sup>

Summa liiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

\* \* \* \* \*

## EXPENSE.

In primis in nocte omnium Sanctorum in candelis ob.  
 Item in una garba de redde j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in sirpis† pro lampadibus ob.  
 Item in oleo empto iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in cera empti iij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> libra precii vij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in oleo empto alia vice xv<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro factura cere ad trabem xj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro candelis erga festum Nathalis domini ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro uno cardine, et Tweste empto ad j domum j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro cera empti vi<sup>s</sup>  
 Item in factura ejusdem cere viij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro una cordula ob.  
 Item pro oleo empto xxv<sup>d</sup>  
 Item ad portandum vexillum j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro panno cilicino ad magnum altare xiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro lathys xj<sup>d</sup>

\* i.e., torchys.

† ? Shears or scissors.

Item pro lathe nayle vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in tegulis vij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro calce hoc est lym vij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item in messe ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item solutis tegulatori iij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro uno lampade j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in oleo empto x<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro emendacione duorum gurgitum xvij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro panno empto ad suppelieum v<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro filo empto ad eundem iij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro factura ejusdem iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro factura cere erga festum omnium Sanctorum j<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro stramine empto et cariagio ejusdem straminis xxiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro spicis iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro factura solarii ad domum Johannis Peres xx<sup>d</sup> quam modo  
 tenet  
 Item pro lotura vestimentorum vj<sup>d</sup>

Summa xxxvij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis allocacionum cum expensis v<sup>li</sup> ij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>

Et sic computatis omnibus redditibus, sursum v<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>

Et sic elegerunt Johannem Bode et Ricardum Forster procuratores  
 predice ecclesie et Johannes Bode portabit Bursam pro anno  
 futuro et recipiet lvj<sup>s</sup>, iiij calices, vestimenta et libros et omnia  
 sunt quietata.

1416.

## No. 18.

Compotus Johannis Bode et Ricardi Forster Procuratores Ecclesie  
 Sancti Michaelis extra portam Borialem Civitatis Bathonie a  
 Festo undecim millia virginum anno regni regis Henrici quinti  
 Anglie iij<sup>o</sup> anno (sic) usque idem Festum anno proximo sequente.

### RECEPCIO.

In primis de lvj<sup>s</sup> receptis de Compotu prioris anni.  
 Item de ij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> collectis ad trabem in Festo Natalis domini.  
 Item in festo Pasche pro cereo fontis v<sup>s</sup> ob. collectis.  
 Item de viij<sup>d</sup> ob. receptis de sacris candelis.  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> de denariis Petri collectis.  
 Item ij<sup>s</sup> pro forpice\* receptis.

Summa iiij<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Scissors.

## EXPENSE.

- In primis pro stramine empto apud Walcote xiiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item solvit stipulatori xi<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro helme et spicis xvi<sup>d</sup>  
 Item Johanni Mulnerde et uxori pro collecione straminis pro  
 stipulatoris famulatu solvit vj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item solvit clerico et uxori viij<sup>d</sup> pro collectione straminis.  
 Item eidem uxori pro dimidio diei ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro viij garbis\* de stramine ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro stramine apud Bathewyke empto v<sup>s</sup>  
 Item pro cariagio ejusdem xvij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro cariagio straminis de Walcote iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro spicis et helme xv<sup>d</sup>  
 Item clerico ad portandum extra clausum ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item stipulatori iij diebus xiiij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item clerico et uxori ad serviendum eidem ij<sup>s</sup>  
 Item pro viij<sup>li</sup> cere iiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> precium libre vij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro factura ejusdem cere ad trabem xj<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro candelis in nocte Natalis domini j<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro iij potellis olei xij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro viij<sup>li</sup> cere iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> erga festum Pasche precium vj<sup>d</sup> ob.  
 Item pro factura ejusdem x<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro cariagio cere ij<sup>d</sup> in pane et vino.  
 Item pro una navi† ix<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro purgacione crucis et thuribili xvij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item in potacione ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item homini portanti vexillum j<sup>d</sup>  
 Item pro lotura vestimentorum vj<sup>d</sup>

Summa xxxij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>

## No. 19.

Bathonia

1420.

Computus Willelmi Wytte et Ricardi Thode procuratores ecclesie  
 parochialis Sancti Michaelis Archangeli extra portam boriam  
 civitatis Bathonie a Festo undecim millia virginum a<sup>o</sup> regni  
 regis Henrici quinti septimo usque Idem Festum anni sequentis  
 a<sup>o</sup> predicti regis octavo.

\* Sheaves.

† Boat for incense.

## RECEPCIO.

In primis dicti procuratores receperunt de pede compoti prioris anni xij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item de Willelmo Cartere pro fine domus sue ut patet in pede prioris compotus xx<sup>s</sup>

Item de Johanne Holt vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt in pecuniis collectis ad trabem erga Festum natalis Christi ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt in denariis collectis ad pascham iiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt de sacris candelis xij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt pro bacillis venditis xij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro pila\* ad Pascham ij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt de Elmehey pro grass j<sup>d</sup>

Item in denariis Sancti Petri receperunt†

Item pro calce vendito ad rectorem de Cherlcombe j<sup>d</sup>

Summa xlix<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> ob.

## REDDITUS.

Item receperunt de redditu assise ut patet per rentale ix<sup>li</sup> ix<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis receptarum xj<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ob.

\* \* \* \* \*

## EXPENSE.

In primis in cera empta erga festum natalis et Pasche vij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro factura ejusdem cere xix<sup>d</sup>

Item pro una corda ad campanam xij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro laqueis emptis ad domum de Alforde iiij<sup>s</sup>

Item pro oleo in toto ij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

Item pro candelis emptis in nocte omnium sanctorum et in vigilia natalis domini et Epiphanie ij<sup>d</sup>

Item in factura de ij smoke holys in domo Willelmi Osbarne iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item in expensis solutis Johanni Pochyne pro introitu domus sue xij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro vino eodem tempore empto viij<sup>d</sup>

Item solutis officiariis ejusdem Civitatis pro sesyng ejusdem domus x<sup>d</sup>

\* ? A skin to hold oil.

† Blank in original ; vij<sup>d</sup> ob. is the usual sum.

Item pro scriptura indenture inter nos parochianos et Johannem Pochyne et sigillacione earundem iij<sup>s</sup>

Item solutis Johanni Pochyne pro redditu xxijs viij<sup>d</sup>

Item solutis homini equitanti bis versus Bristoliam xij<sup>d</sup>

Item solutis pro reparacione campane junioris j<sup>d</sup>

Item pro emendacione suppellicii ij<sup>d</sup>

Item in stramine empto apud Cherlecombe iij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro cariagio et portacione ejusdem xiiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro stipulacione et helme et spykys de domo Johannis Holte ij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>

Item solutis homini servienti stipulatori x<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lectura ejusdem straminis viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro remocione tegularum domus Johannis Perys ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro takyng downe de tegulis de domo Johannis Pochyne in Walcote-strete xiiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lucerna emptā ad ecclesiam viij<sup>d</sup> 9b.

Item pro calce empto ad domum Johannis Perys vj<sup>d</sup> Item pro lathenayle et aliis clavis ad eandem domum ij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro tabula emptā pro uno love ibidem ij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item pro beryng et kochyng de tegulis vj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro una acre de thache apud Bathwyke xx<sup>d</sup>

Item pro baggyng et beryng de eodem viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro clavis emptis ad domum Johannis Perys et ad usum Ecclesie iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro calce empto ad necessitatem ecclesie viij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro beryng de calce et sabulo ij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro stipulacione domus Dionisie Diere in Froggelane ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro cariagio de thache de Bathewyke usque Alford vj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro lectura ejusdem vj<sup>d</sup>

Item pro factura murorum apud Alford iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro rudyng ejusdem domus xij<sup>d</sup>

Item in potacione ibidem j<sup>d</sup>

Item in meremeo empto pro eadem xl<sup>s</sup>

Item pro reparacione de \* in processione et holtes† dorment et stonye xxiij<sup>d</sup>

\* Undeeyphered.

† A dorment beam, laid across a house; *holtes* seems to be derived from *holtz*,—but this is only conjecture.



- Item pro uno batillo ad primam campanam vj<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro selatting de uno flore apud Willelmum Osbarne xij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro stramine empto ad domum Johanne Fogge ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro lectura ejusdem ij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro ligacione straminis in Wykemedede ij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro cibo et potu in cariacione meremii apud Alford, diversis vicibus viij<sup>d</sup>  
Item in potacione ad reryng domus de Alford ij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro factu meremeii domus de Alford in vino iiij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro una mille de lathenayle empto ad Alford xviiiij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro spykes emptis ad domum Johanne Fogge iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
Item pro lotura vestimentorum et aliorum vj<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro pergameno empto ad compotum j<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro scriptura compotus xij<sup>d</sup>  
Item in jantaculo xij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro portacione vexilli in festo pentecosten j<sup>d</sup>  
Item xx<sup>d</sup> de tenemento de Alford.  
Item de tenemento Johannis Pochyne in Walcotstrete qua Johannes Rymour habitat x<sup>s</sup>  
Item pro scriptura duorum obituum in rotulo obituali ij<sup>d</sup> .  
Item pro stramine empto apud Cherlcombe ij<sup>s</sup>  
Item pro cariagio ejusdem viij<sup>d</sup>  
Item solutis stipulatori pro stipulacione de Alford et pro helme et spykes ij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>  
Item solutis homini servienti pro stramine empto ab eodem et spikis iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro reparacione de uno copylle in domo Johannis Pochyn in Walcotestrete et unius postis ad subportandum unum solarium in eadem domo xij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro clavis emptis pro studyng apud Alford et bordis naylles pro hostio ibidem viij<sup>d</sup>  
Item pro lectura straminis solutis Johanne Curtt iiij<sup>d</sup>  
Item emptis spykis de Johanne Mowere ij<sup>d</sup>  
Item solutis Johanni Sprakelyng in Allocacione iiij<sup>s</sup>  
Summa totalis expensarum viij<sup>li</sup> viij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ob.  
Summa tocius allocacionis cum expensis x<sup>li</sup> xix<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

Et sic computatis computandis et allocatis allocandis dicti procuratores debent dicte ecclesie in claro xv<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>

Et dicti parochiani elegerunt Robertum Drywe et Willelmum Wytt. Et dictus Robertus portabit bursam et recepit pre manibus xv<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> Et predicti procuratores onerantur ad receptam de manibus Walteri Riche cccc tegularum vel valorem, et receperunt quatuor calices unum missale et alios libros et alia necessaria ad ecclesiam pertinentia.

*(To be continued.)*

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